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Monday December 23 1974
No 59,277
Price eight pence

THE TIMES

How free is the world's press? Page 10

Mr Heath misses bomb by minutes

…en minutes before Mr Heath arrived at his …ouse in Wilton Street, Knightsbridge, last …ght, a bomb was thrown on to a first …oor balcony window, damaging the three-storey …uilding. Two women staff in the house were …hurt. The Opposition leader had been …turning from Broadstairs, Kent, where he …nducted the annual carol concert.

Balcony blast

…Neville Hodgkinson

…a bomb was thrown on to …alcony of Mr Heath's house …Wilton Street, Knightsbridge, …night 10 minutes before he …ved home after conducting …annual carol concert at …adstairs, Kent.

…he ground floor of the three-…ey, eight-roomed Georgian …se was damaged. After he made a 10-minute inspection …Opposition leader was driven …

…wo members of Mr Heath's … were in the house when …bomb exploded, but neither … hurt.

…he attack came at 9 pm, …t an hour and a half after …Heath left Broadstairs and …e hours before the Provi-…l IRA's ceasefire was due …me into effect.

…mediately after the blast, …olice closed Wilton Street, …ng another explosion. …age to the house, number …as mainly confined to the …nent. Glass and metal …s was thrown into the …

…ree weeks ago a bomb ex-…d at the Talbot public … in Little Chester Street, …200 yards away from Mr …'s house. Five people were …at the Talbot when a bomb …thrown at the window. …er bomb under a table … failed to explode.

…Neil Denton, aged 36, who …aw the parcel bomb at the …t and raised the alert, was …ing there again last night … the Wilton Street bomb …led.

…said: "I had just stepped …e with some friends and …ext thing we knew was … 'wallop'. We thought it was the Pig and Whistle round the corner.

"I think there must have been a warning because there was a police van there on the spot, just over the road in Chester Mews. We went to Wilton Street and saw a gold-coloured Cortina shooting past at about 60 mph. I think the police van got its number because they were radioing something over.

"I shot back to my sports car, hoping to chase the bombers, who went north up Grosvenor Place. I couldn't start the damn thing. I was here the last time, and I have just about had enough."

Scotland Yard said later: "A Cortina car which we understand was chased from near the scene of the explosion was later found abandoned in Sloane Avenue."

Two policemen who were near Mr Heath's house at the time of the blast also tried to stop the Cortina, but failed.

It is understood that Mr Heath is not changing his plans to pay a two-day visit to British troops in Northern Ireland and will be leaving today as arranged.

Among Mr Heath's neighbours are Field Marshal Sir Gerald Templar, a former Chief of the Imperial General Staff, and Lord Trevelyan, a retired diplomat.

Belfast blasts: A large explosion rocked the centre of Belfast at about 10 pm (the Press Association reports). Two small explosions in north Belfast were reported earlier and another two at Lurgan.

Custody orders, page 2

…aikh hints at deferred …l payments scheme

…in could be a prime bene-…y of a deferred oil payment …ne suggested at the week-… by Shaikh Ahmed Zaki …ani, the Saudi Arabian oil …ster. He said that producing …tries might accept deferred …ents for 25 per cent of … crude oil on a long-term basis. Kuwait announced on Saturday that it now effectively owned the whole of the Kuwait Oil Co in which BP and Gulf have a 40 per cent share, and reports from Qatar in the Persian Gulf said the country intended to nationalize the interests of all oil companies Page 15

…esident Ford warns the CIA …ainst spying within US

…sident Ford said yesterday … he would not tolerate spy-… operations by the Central …elligence Agency within the …ted States. He was respond-… to allegations in *The New York Times* that the agency had spied on American citizens on a vast scale during the Nixon Administration. Congressional investigation of the agency seems inevitable Page 6

…atwick shut

…wick is closed today because …an unofficial 24-hour strike …500 ground staff, and Christ-…s holiday flights in and out …the airport have been halted. …ks yesterday failed to avert …e stoppage, which is in pur-…it of a claim for extra pay …r working near London Page 4

…ingfield sold

…acing will continue at Ling-…eld Park, which has been sold …the Ladbroke firm of book-…akers for about £500,000, and …rrangements are in hand for 23 …ays of racing next year. Page 9

Oil funds plea

A group of monetary experts says time is running out for the world community to avert a "calamity" over soaring oil prices. Consumers and producers have a common interest in cooperating, the group says. It suggests an investment trust to channel surplus oil revenue into productive use. Page 15

Engineers' claim: Substantial increases in basic pay for 1,500,000 engineering workers, five extra days' holiday and abolition of women's rate are in a three-point demand put to the employers 2

Harrods clean-up: Directors joined about six hundred staff volunteers yesterday to get the store ready for opening today after bomb damage 2

Farm wages: Negotiations resume today on a pay increase for agricultural workers against a background of unprecedented militancy 4

Hare-coursing: Supporters of field sports fear that a proposed government Bill to outlaw hare-coursing is a first move to ban all "blood" sports 4

Rome: 20 people injured in street battle between left and right wing extremists and police trying to keep them apart 6

Washington: Mr Hubert Humphrey, ebullient after recovering from an operation, is out to galvanize senior Democrats into action 7

Ethiopia: Tens of thousands of students march through Addis Ababa in support of socialism before going off to farm work 7

Holy Land pilgrims in grenade attack

From Moshe Brilliant
Tel Aviv, Dec 22

A terrorist grenade lobbed at a busload of American Christian pilgrims in the biblical town of Bethany this morning injured Miss Dejean Replogle, aged 16, of Jacksonville, Florida. She was one of 17 congregants of the Main Street Baptist Church, of Jacksonville, on a Christmas tour with their pastor, Dr E. C. McDaniel.

A 27-year-old Arab who was repairing a car near the scene was also hurt slightly and was sent home after hospital treatment. Israel forces surrounded El Azaria, built on the ruins of Bethany, and conducted an alley by alley search, detaining 20 Arab suspects for interrogation. The grenade apparently was thrown from a rooftop over a courtyard abutting the Jerusalem-Jericho road.

Dr McDaniel said Miss Replogle was out of danger after surgery in Jerusalem and had asked him to urge the group to proceed with the tour as planned. The pastor said the group had met in the hotel and had already decided to do so. They arrived on Thursday for an eight-day tour, including Christmas in Bethlehem.

Bethany, where the assault occurred, is mentioned in the New Testament as the village where Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead. The tour on its way from Jericho to Jerusalem stopped there and the pilgrims visited the tomb of Lazarus.

Just as the driver turned on the engine to continue towards Jerusalem, the blast sent metal splinters tearing through the side of the bus. Miss Replogle, who was sitting halfway down the vehicle, was hit in the leg.

"I thought it was a Christmas firecracker", Dr McDaniel said. "But then I saw the cloud of smoke and heard the girl scream: 'I've been hit'. She was bleeding profusely."

Paul Martin writes from Beirut: The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) today warned Christmas pilgrims against visiting the Holy Land because of its "mounting campaign" in Israel-occupied territory. The warning came after the PLO claimed responsibility for the grenade attack on the bus carrying the tourists.

… sible for any harm that might befall them", a PLO statement said. "This is because of our escalating operations against the vile Zionist enemy. We advise them not to travel to occupied Palestine."

The statement added that the "tourists alone will be responsible for whatever might happen to them" if the warning went unheeded. It declared that the present campaign resulted from the continued occupation of Arab territory by Israel and the "suppression" of freedom of religious practice in the territories.

The attack on the bus was the third attack by Palestinian terrorists in the past 10 days. It came only 48 hours after a powerful bomb rocked Ben Yehuda Street in West Jerusalem, injuring 12 people. Two Palestinian guerrilla groups claimed responsibility for the explosion.

The PLO put its name to the grenade attack in a communiqué issued by WAFA, the official Palestine news agency. It gave no details. In previous claims of this sort, the PLO has attributed the attacks to its internal command—the name it gives for its cells operating inside Israel and occupied territory.

Ever since its success at the Rabat summit and debut at the United Nations, the PLO has endeavoured to step up its operations inside Israel. The result has been a marked upsurge in these operations which have caused a growing anger among the Israel leadership.

Hardly a day goes by without claims by the PLO that its squads inside Israel and in the occupied territories have carried out attacks on Israel installations. In many cases there is no confirmation from official Israel sources and some are undoubtedly propaganda. However, it is clear that in the past month the guerrillas have managed to revive their "internal" operations after a long period of inactivity.

Tel Aviv, Dec 22.—Israel and Lebanon have agreed on a six-week border truce to protect the olive harvest, United Nations sources said today. Under the ceasefire, which has already gone into effect, Israel has suspended artillery bombardments of the region.—Reuter.

Arab ministers to meet, page 6

A photograph taken by the Duchess of Gloucester showing the Duke holding their son, Lord Ulster, who was born prematurely on Oct 24.

Nine deaths caused by skiing in danger area

Kitzbühel, Dec 22.—Nine skiers were killed by an avalanche on a slope above the Austrian ski resort of Kitzbühel yesterday. Officials said today that the victims had been skiing in an area flagged off as dangerous.

The officials told a press conference that temperatures above freezing point had threatened to loosen the snow.

Thirteen skiers were caught by the avalanche near the Hahnekamm ridge. Four of German family … members of a party of ski instructors from the Aschau ski school in Kirchberg, near Kitzbühel.

Rescuers called off the search today after digging throughout the night under floodlights, helped by 12 search dogs. They had found nine bodies and were satisfied that no one else was missing.

Dr Otto Schimpp, of the Tirolean Avalanche Warning Service, said that temperatures near the mountain top rose to about 2°C (36°F) yesterday morning.

The instructors were inspecting the area served by a new ski lift which had opened only that morning. It was not clear whether they or the German family had entered the danger zone first.

Survivors included Kaspar Schroll, aged 16, the brother of the Austrian international skier, Fräulein Brigitte Schroll, and Herr Josef Gruber, the leader of the Aschau school.

The wife of one of the survivors, recovering in hospital in Kitzbühel, said: "It was all so quick. I heard a crash, then my husband, who was standing less than two metres from me suddenly disappeared. He was luckily dragged quickly from the snow by another skier."

More than 50 people have been killed by avalanches in the Austrian Alps in the past two years, more than half of them West Germans.

In the country's worst snow disaster in 1954, avalanches near Bludenz in western Austria, killed 80 people in two days.—Reuter.

Photograph, page 6

Tories may challenge £4m Benn grant

By Our Political Correspondent

While Mr Benn, the Secretary of State for Industry, continued to defend his decision to authorize a government grant of £4m to the Merseyside workers' cooperative, which has taken over the former Fisher-Bendix plant at Kirkby, Liverpool, Conservative leaders were discussing how best they can challenge the Government in Parliament over what they call "this latest example of gross misuse of public money".

Mr Michael Heseltine, Opposition spokesman on industry, said there were normal practices … politicians' instructions.

But Mr Benn was now replacing that procedure of fairness with a system of personal ministerial judgments that had no relationship to any precedent, but only with his political aspirations.

He said: "The resources supplied for inefficient and uneconomic operation are misleading to the employees concerned, encourage others to follow these illegal precedents, commit national resources to wasteful projects, and create a growing sense of injustice among the overwhelming majority of hard-working, law-abiding citizens who totally fail to understand why creeping militancy should attract government support at their expense."

Mr Benn was, of course, acting under an Act of Parliament, passed during the time of the Conservative Government, and he was quick to point out yesterday that he was not bound to accept the advice of the Industrial Development Advisory Board, appointed by the previous government.

Interviewed in the BBC radio programme *The World This Weekend*, Mr Benn said of the board: "In most cases I find their recommendations are helpful, but democracy means that the decisions are ultimately made by ministers and ministers are accountable for what they do."

He said the Fisher-Bendix plant had been in the hands of six different companies since 1961. Many of the products made at Kirkby had been transferred elsewhere.

"The people who have suffered throughout this period have been the workers at the plant", Mr Benn said. When finally they were threatened with redundancy in the summer they came forward with constructive ideas and tried to find an answer. The Government appointed consultants and a scheme was put up. Then the Government decided to give the workers a chance to see what they could do for themselves.

Having provided the money, the Government would monitor … missed. If they … employed, they would be getting a government grant for doing nothing.

"Does it make sense to pay workers for doing nothing when you can give them the opportunity to show that they can solve their own industrial problems?" he said.

Interviewed in London Weekend Television's programme *Weekend World*, by Mr Peter Jay, Economics Editor of *The Times*, Mr Benn argued for workers in firms to have the right of joint decision-making and joint control. If people were allowed and encouraged to play a larger part in the firm, it would bring a more satisfying society and one in which "people are able to give much more and that in itself will increase production". He said trade unions and management would confirm that Britain was capable of producing between a third and twice as much as it did now with the existing plant.

Malcolm Brown writes: There will be no resignations from the Industrial Development Advisory Board after the dispute with Mr Benn. Reports that members might leave the board were firmly denied yesterday by Mr Robert Clark, chairman. It is felt that, while resignations might have dramatic impact, the decision to make a public criticism of the Kirkby proposals will be of greater long-term benefit.

Leading article, page 11

£21m Arab loan for Dacca to aid economy

Dacca, Dec 22.—The United Arab Emirates will give Bangladesh a $50m (about £21m) soft-term loan to overcome the nation's economic crisis, Shaikh Mujibur Rahman, the Prime Minister, disclosed in Dacca yesterday on his return from a three-day visit to Abu Dhabi.

He said the Emirates would extend another $20m credit to help Bangladesh to buy industrial raw materials and spare parts.—Reuter.

Queen to spend holiday in six-bedroom farmhouse

From Our Correspondent
King's Lynn

The Queen, with other members of the Royal Family, is to spend four weeks living in a six-bedroom farmhouse on the Sandringham royal estate. She moved into Wood Farm, Wolferton, two miles from Sandringham, on Saturday with the Duke of Edinburgh, the Prince of Wales, Prince Andrew and Prince Edward, it was announced yesterday.

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother and other guests at Sandringham during the traditional new year stay will live with friends in Norfolk or book into hotels.

The Queen is staying at Wood Farm because Sandringham House is undergoing rebuilding. The object of the scheme is to make the house more economical to run.

At first it was thought that the Royal Family would have to miss their new year visit to the 20,000-acre Sandringham estate, but the Queen likes the intimate scale of Wood Farm, where she has spent short visits already, and decided to stay there until the end of January.

Muller broadcast explains step towards détente in southern Africa

From Michael Knipe
Cape Town, Dec 22

South Africa's move towards détente in southern Africa would not be confined to the proposed negotiated settlement of the Rhodesian question, Dr Hilgard Muller, the Foreign Minister, said in a radio broadcast tonight. The latest developments (presumably in Rhodesia) would strengthen the hands of other African leaders seeking peaceful solutions rather than confrontation.

Issuing a warning about the uncertainty of South Africa's commitment to the United Nations, Dr Muller said: "No right-thinking person can blame South Africa if we do not pay too much attention to decisions by an organization which does not hesitate to violate its own constitution, or if we should begin to doubt whether the advantages of membership are really greater than the disadvantages."

However, an effective ceasefire in Rhodesia "which it seems is being honestly striven for", could lead to peace and the withdrawal of the South African police from Rhodesia.

Dr Muller, who was delivering his New Year message, said the map of southern Africa could take on a completely different appearance in the near future if a solution to the Rhodesian problem could be found, together with the coming of independence to Mozambique and Angola "as well as in the Transkei and other African homelands which may follow in its wake".

The South African Government, he said, would "not hesitate to do away with humiliating measures and practices which harm good relations between white and non-white and which have nothing to do with the maintenance of our own identity and sovereignty".

Rhodesia forces get together with guerrillas

Salisbury, Dec 22.—Some members of Rhodesia's security forces and a group of guerrillas laid down their arms briefly last week and discussed the ceasefire, a Government spokesman confirmed today.

The meeting, which took place in the "operational area", is believed to have been the first peaceful contact between the two sides, which have been fighting for two years.

The ceasefire was announced by Mr Smith, the Prime Minister, on December 11, but security forces have since reported isolated incidents.

Labour MPs protest to Mr Wilson on Commons 'gagging'

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

After the furtive way in which the Government released the Boyle review body's findings on top salaries and Mr Wilson's decisions upon it, when most MPs had left Westminster on Friday for the Christmas recess, 30 Labour backbenchers yesterday signed a letter of protest to the Prime Minister.

Most of the signatories belong to the *Tribune* group, which led the revolt against the Government's defence programme a week ago and caused Mr Mellish, the Government Chief Whip, to offer his resignation.

They complain that the Government is more and more announcing decisions by using the parliamentary written answer device, which means that ministers cannot be challenged in the Commons.

Mr G. R. Cryer, Labour MP for Keighley, who sponsored the letter, said that came very close to gagging MPs. "This is government by fiat, or by the back door, no less", he said. "It renders MPs absolutely impotent to query, attack, or generally confront ministers on very important decisions they make."

Mr Cryer cited four issues that had been announced as Commons written replies in the past few days. They were increased charges for school meals, higher petrol prices, teachers' salaries, and top salaries.

"All of these are matters of the greatest moment and were announced as parliamentary written replies, which are no more than bits of paper and cannot be challenged in Parliament", Mr Cryer said. "Our letter was sent before the top salaries issue was announced, and that makes the situation even worse. I was almost blinded with anger when I heard it.

"The way in which it was done gives the impression that backbench MPs assent to this sort of decision. We have reminded the Prime Minister of his commitment to open government. We have urged that in future any such matters should be discussed by the Parliamentary Labour Party and made subject to questioning by elected MPs."

On top salaries, Mr Cryer said: "It is wrong that the these decisions and are supposed to defend the actions of the Government when we do not even get a chance to challenge ministers about them; they should be prepared to lay themselves open to challenge from MPs. If they do not, it raises a very serious constitutional point."

The Government's decision to approve in two stages salary increases ranging from £2,000 to £4,650 for senior civil servants, Service officers and the judiciary was also criticized by Mr Sidney Bidwell, MP for Ealing, Southall, and chairman of the *Tribune* group of MPs.

Mr Bidwell said that the Government's decision to let the increases go ahead showed a lack of imagination on the part of the Government about the effect on people living on low or ordinary incomes.

"There was a need for dramatic action", he said. "The economic situation calls for a freeze on top salaries, if not a reduction, including the salaries of Cabinet ministers.

"The announcement cannot possibly bring about a climate of restraint among the unions, where there are growing pressures for substantial wage increases. It would seem that the Government is actually trying to create a bloody-minded attitude among the working people."

Mr Walter Johnson, MP for Derby, South, who is an assistant Government whip, yesterday said the Government's decision was a very bad psychological move. He added: "Although over 75 per cent of the increase paid to the judges, heads of the Civil Service and Service chiefs will go in tax, it still leaves them with an increase larger than some of my constituents earn.

"These increases will also give very substantial benefits where pensions are concerned, most of them non-contributory, and will also include a lump sum free of tax.

"It is not as though these people are on the bread line. But it will make it that much more difficult for trade union leaders to hold back pay claims for workers, particularly those who work unsocial hours and who do the dirty, dangerous jobs."

Mr Johnson said it would be a good test of the top people's

77 feared killed as Venezuelan airliner explodes

Caracas, Dec 22.—A Venezuelan DC9 airliner with 77 people on board exploded in midair and crashed today shortly after taking off from Maturin airport, about 300 miles east of Caracas.

Airline officials feared that all on board the Aerovias Venezolanas flight from Ciudad Bolivar to Caracas, with a stop at Maturin, had been killed.

The pilot had reported engine trouble and was trying to make an emergency landing when the aircraft crashed about 20 miles outside Maturin, the officials said.—UPI.

Ten bodies found in Iceland snow disaster

Reykjavik, Dec 22.—Rescue workers dug through mounds of snow today, searching for two people still missing in an avalanche that hit the Icelandic east coast fishing town of Neskaupstadur on Friday, taking 10 lives. Frogmen also searched the sea for bodies.

The bodies of six men, two women, and two children have been recovered.

Mr Hallgrimsson, the Prime Minister, who visited the scene of the disaster today, came by boat as the town is virtually cut off by snow-blocked roads. AP.

HOME NEWS

Engineering unions' 3-point claim seeks substantial basic rise

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

Union leaders have submitted a wage demand for "substantial" increases in basic rates for 1,500,000 workers in the engineering industry. The claim, one of the briefest on record, was put in by letter three days ago, and informal talks on a timetable for negotiations will take place early next month.

All suggestion of a cut in the working week has been dropped by the engineering unions, whose three-point package demand calls for abolition of the female rate and five extra days' holiday as well as much higher minimum rates.

The claim is in line with the decision of the national committee of the dominant engineering section of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, which last month spurned left-wing criticism of the social contract and voted not to put a figure on this year's wage ambitions.

Once negotiations get under way, the argument between the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions and the Engineering Employers' Federation is likely to resolve into a dispute about how much extra there should be on the basic rate, and when it should be paid. The female rate must be phased out by the end of this year under the Equal Pay Act, and the employers are certain to refuse to concede any more holidays. Under the 1974 agreement, engineering workers next year will get four weeks' paid holiday and seven other days off.

Strong opposition to an early improvement in wage rates is expected from hard-line members of the employers' federation management board. This year's settlement, in May, gave a two-stage improvement to be concluded next March, when the rates go up to £32 a week for craftsmen and £25.50 for labourers.

Although they have so far declined to name target figures, moderates among the engineering trade union side leadership are understood to be thinking in terms of £8 to £10 a week on the craftsmen's rate, with pro rata increases for labourers.

The engineering wage negotiations will be a critical test of the TUC's social contract with Government, about which the engineering union has considerable misgivings. Equally, the employers will seek to interpret strictly the TUC's wage-restraint guidelines, particularly the "twelve-month rule", which forbids more than one big rise a year, arguing that engineering workers should not receive improved basic rates before the autumn.

Labour MPs criticize top-salary increases

Continued from page 1

who is a prominent member of the *Tribune* group, said: "My criticism is that the Government's wages policy is being issued in bits and pieces. We have had the Halsbury committee on nurses' pay, the Houghton report on teachers' pay, and now the Boyle report on top people's pay.

"There is no evidence that Lord Halsbury has spoken to Lord Houghton, or that Lord Houghton or Lord Halsbury have spoken to Lord Boyle. There is no common strategy.

"On top of that, we now have Mr Michael Foot, Secretary of State for Employment, seeming to set out criteria or set of rules to which manual workers are asked to adhere.

"If there are to be these special cases and it is all on a voluntary basis, then we shall get into a dreadful mess. People should be told that there is an overall strategy and what it is [illegible] for restraint from, say, the engineering workers."

Mr Atkinson welcomed the Government's decision to refer the proposed increases of nationalized industry chairmen and boards to the Royal Commission on Income Distribution and Wealth, but he thought more attention should be given to Mr Foot's proposal that an upper limit should be placed on those top salaries.

Mr Martin Flannery, Labour MP for Sheffield, Hillsborough, said the pay increases had driven a coach and horses through the middle of the social contract.

"How can the Government expect ordinary working people to exercise pay restraint, and how does this square with the pledge in the Labour manifesto 'to bring about a fundamental and irreversible shift in the balance of wealth and power in favour of working people and their families'?", he asked. "I am appalled at such lack of sensitivity."

Leaders of the National Union of Mineworkers today will receive a letter from miners in the north-west protesting against the "massive" pay rises for the top people. Mr Sidney Vincent, the union's north-west area general secretary, said after a weekend area conference at Bolton that delegates condemned the action of the review body.

MP on "my duty": Mr Arthur Latham, Labour MP for Paddington, who was among those voting against the Government's defence policy in the Commons last Monday, said on Saturday that the idea of "my govern[illegible] of my conviction that the Government's proposals fall short of what we were entitled to expect in the pruning of defence estimates."

In a statement to the Press Association Mr Latham said: "I was not elected to Parliament merely to do as the chief whip tells me. I believe every Labour MP has a duty to judge the merits of what the Government is doing, to conscientiously measure performance against promise, to seek to represent the interest of his constituents and to take account also of the views of the constituency party which selected him and campaigned to get him elected."

Labour defence policy, page 10
David Wood's column, page 11

Directors join in clean-up at Harrods

By Penny Symon

Mr Robert Midgley, managing director of Harrods, donned old clothes and wellington boots yesterday and joined fellow directors and other staff who had volunteered to spend the day clearing up after Saturday's bomb.

Mr Midgley said that he was determined that the Knightsbridge store should open this morning, in spite of considerable damage caused by the bomb which was left in a bag in the housewares department on the second floor. About 600 people stayed on until midnight on Saturday to begin clearing up and were back in the store at 7 am yesterday to continue the job.

"We will stay here as long as it takes, because we are determined to open as usual", he said.

The damaged department, where wallpaper, paint, garden tools and motor accessories are sold, will be closed today. Broken glass and pieces of the ceiling littered the carpet, which was covered in paint stains. Volunteers were removing debris, damaged goods and smashed display fittings while the windows were boarded up.

Some fur coats on the floor below were damaged as water from the sprinkler system seeped through. Displays had to be removed from three ground-floor windows.

"We have the assessors in now, but it is impossible to estimate the amount of damage done", Mr Midgley said. "It will probably run into hundreds of thousands of pounds."

Saturday was an extremely busy day, with 6,000 staff on duty, and thousands of customers in the store. Two factors prevented the bomb from having a more devastating effect.

"We have devised a very stringent evacuation drill, and this worked perfectly on Saturday", Mr Midgley said. "People were evacuated in 12 minutes thanks to the efficiency of the staff.

"The other factor was the fact that we can seal off any department with steel fire shutters, and that stopped the fire from spreading into neighbouring departments."

The bomb was spotted by Mr Jack Butler, the buyer in the housewares department.

"He telephoned security staff immediately, and evacuation began. There were about two dozen people in his department, and 90 security staff on duty in the store. We are as security conscious as possible, but we have a large cross-section of people coming in and out each day, and obviously it is difficult. Seeing all this mess makes me very angry, and very sad", Mr Midgley said.

Mr Robert Midgley, left, and Mr Jack Butler, centre, helping to clear up at Harrods yesterday.

Bath conservationists are scenting victory

By John Young

The threat to Georgian Bath from large-scale redevelopment, in particular from the central relief road first proposesd by Sir Colin Buchanan, appears to have finally receded.

Last week Dr Wilfred Burns, deputy secretary and chief planner of the Department of the Environment, took over from Lord Holford as chairman of the steering committee established in 1973 to examine plans for the city's future.

It is virtually unprecedented for the Government to become directly involved at such a high level in local planning affairs, and it indicates that Mr Crosland, Secretary of State for the Environment, has come round to the view of his predecessor, Mr Rippon, that the preservation of Bath is a matter of national importance.

Dr Burns's appointment may have been deliberately unpublicized to avoid offending local council's susceptibilities or giving the impression that the department was adopting a "big brother" role. Dr Howard Stutchbury, Bath's former chief planner and now Avon county planning officer, has in the past been a noted advocate of radical change and modernization.

Councillors have frequently accused conservationists of wanting to turn Bath into a museum piece and of ignoring the need for new employment and economic activity in a city of 85,000 people. Many of them were openly incensed at the decision to give the Bath Preservation Trust equal representation with each of the councils on the steering committee.

The mere presence of senior civil servants on the committee does not, of course, mean that they will automatically take the side of the trust against the two councils. Dr Burns, in particular, was highly unpopular with the environmental lobby when, as chief planner of Newcastle upon Tyne, he was responsible for its controversial urban motorway plan.

But all the evidence suggests that Bath will avoid a similar trauma.

Last August Mr Crosland announced that money to build the tunnels to carry the relief road under the city centre would not be available in the next few years, and work is now going ahead on his proposed studies of traffic management and public transport, conservation and the consequences of restricting changes to a minimum in the historic areas.

After more than a decade's struggle, the conservationists are scenting victory.

Mrs Castle puts case as doctors plan work-to-rule

Eleven thousand copies of the Government's new contract offer to hospital consultants will be posted to them today, but their leaders are continuing plans to charge health authorities £1m a week or more from January 2 in a work-to-contract call to their members.

Details of the Government's proposals, which doctors have described as totally unacceptable, are being sent to all consultants by the Department of Health and Social Security with covering letters from Mrs Castle, Secretary of State for Social Services, and from the consultants' leaders, setting out their objections.

The British Medical Association and the Hospital Consultants' and Specialists' Association have called on members to support a work-to-rule in which consultants will work the 31½ or 38½ hours a week set out in their existing contracts, and deal with emergencies.

Further work will be done only if health authorities hire the doctors back from the employment agencies the British Medical Association has set up at its offices.

Five thousand doctors, many of them consultants, have registered with the agencies in the past fortnight. The rate demanded will be £8 an hour.

Health authorities are unlikely to be able to afford the extra money to keep down the backlog of non-urgent cases.

Mr Morris, Minister of State, Civil Service, criticized consultants' leaders yesterday.

"To proceed to a form of industrial action without making known to consultants' specialists details of Government's offer, or communicating with their members about terms of the offer, are hardly the hallmark of responsible leadership", he said.

Many had serious reservations about the way the negotiations had been handled by their leaders. He said that Hugh Freeman, a Manchester consultant, was one who questioned the justification for the proposed action.

Nine men served with Ulster custody orders

From Stewart Tendler
in Belfast

Nine men were served with interim custody orders by security forces in Northern Ireland yesterday, the day before the Provisional IRA's proposed 11-day ceasefire was due to start. The 28-day orders were served in connexion with bombing incidents in Belfast, which began on Friday with five bombs in the central shopping area.

In Dublin Mr Seamus Twomey, a member of the Provisional IRA army council, said the prospects were favourable for a continuance of the ceasefire past January 2, given even [illegible] prisoners. Last year 68 were released over the holidays, and although there have been promises of an announcement none has come. The Government's first response to an effective ceasefire may be this year's paroles.

Yesterday afternoon nearly seven thousand people gathered in Donegall Place, in Belfast's city centre, to take part in an interdenominational carol service to promote peace. They heard lessons read by a Roman Catholic and a Protestant child in what the RUC described as the quietest large demonstration in Ulster for some time.

The only voices of dissension came from the edge of the crowd from members of the Democratic Unionist Party. Placards reading "Peace through victory" were displayed.

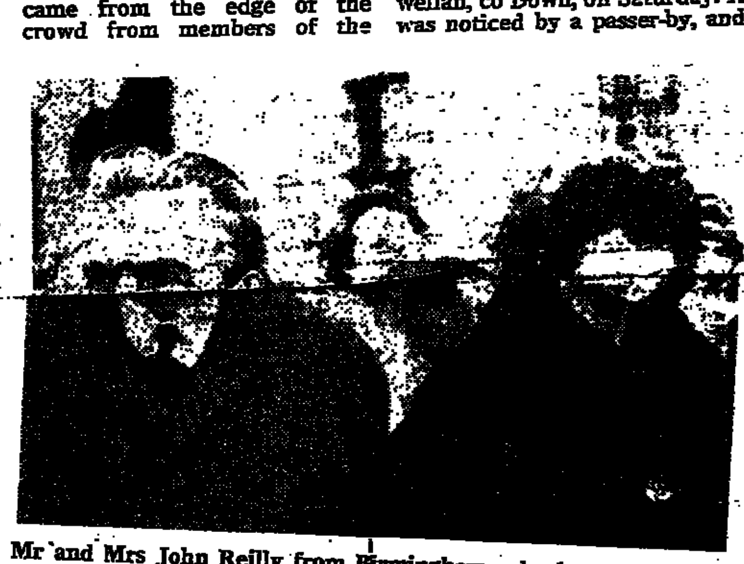
A bomb was left in a beer barrel outside a shop in Castlewellan, co Down, on Saturday. It was noticed by a passer-by, and Mr James McGill and his family left their flat above the shop before it was wrecked by the explosion.

A 400lb bomb was left outside the RUC station at Bessbrook, Newry, co Down, on Saturday night. It was defused early yesterday.

Peace march: A peace march by 20,000 people, stretching for two miles, passed round the city centre in Dublin yesterday. But it was marred at the start by scuffles (the Press Association reports).

Withdrawal urged: Mr Tam Dalyell, vice-chairman of the Parliamentary Labour Party, said on Saturday that the Government should "snatch at the opportunity" of the IRA truce to end internment and withdraw the troops (Our Political Staff writes).

Speaking at Bo'ness in his West Lothian constituency, he said that people on this side of the Irish Channel should face the brutal reality that as long as two thousand Irishmen were held in concentration camps like the Maze in Long Kesh, many without trial, there would be no end of the bombing either in Great Britain or in Ulster.



Mr and Mrs John Reilly from Birmingham, who lost two sons in bomb explosions in the city, taking part in a peace walk in Dublin yesterday.

All-party support to exempt Sikhs from helmet law

By Our Political Staff

All-party support has been promised for a private member's Bill which seeks to exempt turban-wearing Sikhs from wearing crash helmets when riding motor cycles. When the new law was debated in Parliament many MPs argued that it was wrong to make the wearing of crash helmets compulsory, and doubly wrong when it interfered with the religious customs of the Sikhs.

The issue will come before the House on January 28, when Mr Sydney Bidwell, Labour MP for Ealing, Southall, seeks leave to introduce the Bill under the 10-minute rule. Its main sponsors are: Miss Fookes (Plymouth, Drake, C), Mr Churchill (Stretford, C), Mr Smith (Rochdale, L), Mr Hatton (Manchester, Moss Side, Lab), Mr Thomas (Merioneth, Plaid Cymru), Mr George (Walsall, South, Lab), Mr Steel (Roxburgh, Selkirk and Peebles, L), Mr Sandelson (Hillingdon, Hayes and Harlington, Lab), Mr Faulds (Warley, East, Lab) and Sir George Sinclair (Dorking, C).

Houghton m[illegible] better teachers, heads declare

Head teachers of state sch[illegible] believe the Houghton report on teachers' pay could mark the start of a trend to greater all-round quality of young people going into teaching.

Mr Frank Mills, chairman of the salaries committee of the National Association of Head Teachers, which has 17,500 members, said yesterday: "There is now a real hope for the first time in many years that we can get away from the situation where anyone who gets into a teachers' training college can pass and get a job.

"With the kind of pay structure for career teachers proposed by Houghton we hope there will be sufficient good recruits so that colleges can be more selective about the people they admit."

Mr Powell attacks 'social and political dishonesty'

By John Groser

Mr Enoch Powell, Unionist MP for Down, South, said on Saturday that there was no truth in the suggestion that there had been a great transfer of economic power to the oil producing nations. "That is the sort of stuff that is fed to the British people to make them feel miserable", he said.

Speaking in his constituency, the former Conservative minister insisted that there was a campaign afoot designed "to knock the heart and soul out of the people of Britain". The siren voices were uttering untruths and nonsense into the bargain.

The very idea of power in the context of economics was incompatible with the free and open dealing of the market, Mr Powell felt. "The grandiose conspiracies in Washington and Paris, to which presidents and ministers migrate, are the very breeding grounds of arbitrary power", he said.

The only fault and failure of Britain at present was inflation. That he described as "the progressive, persistent, socially and politically destructive dishonesty by which the value of our money is debased from one year to the next". This one and only fault had one, and only one, cause.

"It is none of those causes which are paraded before the British people to reduce them to a state of despair and mutual recrimination", he said. "It is neither the fecklessness of workers, nor the selfishness and indiscipline of our trade unions, nor the inefficiency of our industry, nor the unadventurousness of our merchants."

The sole and single cause of the situation, in Mr Powell's view, was that one government after another had pushed public expenditure above revenue.

The remedy could only be "a drastic retrenchment of future programmes of state expenditure and probably also an actual retrenchment of the present level of total state expenditure.

Botterill draws to win chess championship

By a Chess Correspondent

The British Chess Championship play-off tournament ended at Llanelli on Saturday in a well deserved victory for G. S. Botterill, a university lecturer from Aberystwyth.

Botterill seemed in difficulties against R. Bellin in the last round but careful play enabled him to defend the position and obtain a draw. Details of round seven:

R. Bellin v G. S. Botterill: Pirc defence; drawn. A. J. Mestel v W. R. Hartston: Sicilian defence; Black won. M. J. Haygarth v M. F. Stean: QP, Volga counter gambit; drawn. A. B. Williams had the bye.

Final scores: Botterill 4½; Hartston 4; Mestel 3½; Haygarth and Stean 2½; Bellin and Williams 2.

Van load kills boy

Robert Roberts, aged 13, of Chelmsford, Essex, was killed yesterday when a load of oranges fell on him in the back of his father's van. His father found the boy dead when he stopped the van.

A giant leap in little hops for lovers of real ale

Regional report

Trevor Fishlock

Bristol

The Englishman is today at a low ebb. It is not only a matter of prices, petrol and politicians; there is also the redeath of English cricket, the state of English soccer, the difficulty of getting a plumber, the exorbitant price of soda water on English trains.

Instead of the great nut brown brews that nourished England's yeomen and empire-builders, gave hope to the poor and put hair on chests, there is keg, as dead and cold as a cod's kiss.

But at last a beacon is burning. In downtown Bristol, Englishmen are fighting back and have built a fortress. The Campaign for Real Ale, Camra, has formed a company to buy pubs and its first capture, the Old Fox, is a bridgehead in a land of keg.

It is a small beginning, but from little hops great barrels of beer grow. A protest group comes of age when it reinforces complaining by taking constructive action to remedy that of which it complains. Camra is now buying another pub, in Cheshire. More pubs are to be bought and then a brewery. Camra was started only three years ago and from the boardrooms of the major breweries it no doubt looked a contemptible little army of cranks. Now it has 27,000 members and when its investment company was formed to buy pubs, the real ale lovers put their money where their mouths were and bought £190,000 of shares.

The pub in Bristol cost £17,500. It is to be renovated and supplied with three brands of traditionally brewed beers; it has only one at present, which has been selected, after exhaustive testing, by dedicated Camra members.

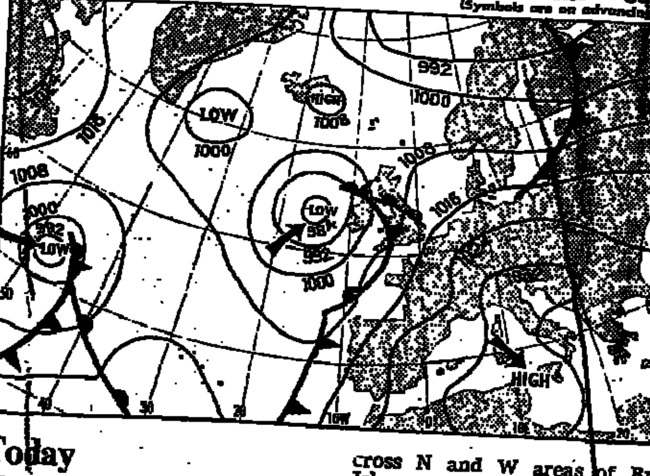
Interest in the real ale movement in Bristol has much to do with Mr David Prain, a Mancunian solicitor who arrived in Bristol 15 months ago.

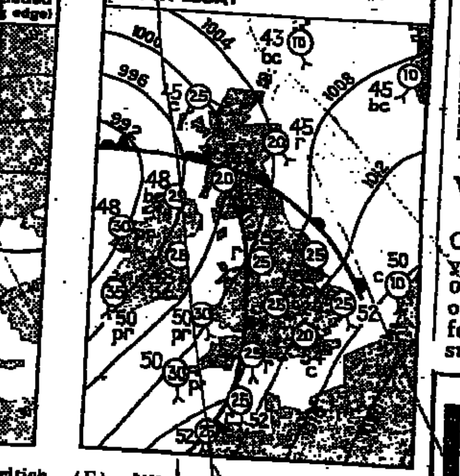
"Coming from an area where there is still good beer to be had, I was appalled to find that Bristol was a real ale drinker's nightmare.

"I started the Bristol branch of Camra six months ago and now we have 400 members. I think our campaigning, and the fact that our organization is buying its own pubs, is making the big breweries take notice. They are realizing that there is a tremendous demand for traditionally brewed and served beers, and we have encouraged small breweries and pubs all over the country to keep on making and serving the real stuff. We are not telling people to stop drinking keg. It is simply that we believe in choice."

There are still scores of real ale houses in England, of course. But the importance of the Old Fox is that the resistance is hitting back to preserve choice and tradition, and to ensure that there are saloon bars in keg country that will remain forever England.

Weather forecast and recordings





Today

Sun rises: 8.5 am Sun sets: 3.55 pm
Moon sets: 1.33 am Moon rises: 12.3 pm

Full Moon: December 29.

Lighting up: 4.25 pm to 7.35 am.

High water: London Bridge, 7.43 am, 5.8m (19.0ft); 8.37 pm, 5.8m (19.1ft). Avonmouth, 12.48 am, 10.0m (32.9ft); 1.20 pm, 10.0m (32.9ft). Dover, 5.13 am, 5.5m (18.0ft); 6.1 pm, 5.2m (17.2ft). Hull, 12.50 pm, 5.7m (18.6ft). Liverpool, 5.30 am, 6.7m (21.9ft); 5.53 pm, 6.9m (22.7ft).

A deep depression will move N to W of Ireland and associated troughs of low pressure will cross N and W areas of British Isles.

Forecast for 6 am to midnight:

London, E, SE England, East Anglia: Bright intervals, becoming generally cloudy, perhaps rain in places later; wind S, fresh; max temp 12°C (54°F).

Central S England, Midlands, Channel Isles: Bright in places, becoming cloudy with outbreaks of rain or drizzle; wind S, fresh or strong; max temp 12°C (54°F).

SW, NW England, Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man: Mostly cloudy, rain or drizzle at times, hill fog; wind S, fresh or strong; max temp 11°C or 12°C (52°F or 54°F).

Sea passages: S North Sea, Strait of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind SW, strong, occasionally gale force; sea rough or very rough.

Outlook for tomorrow and Wednesday: Mild, rather cloudy, rain in places, becoming brighter, with showers mostly in W, temp near normal.

Yesterday

London: Temp: max, 6 am to 6 pm, 12°C (54°F); min, 6 pm to 6 am, 10°C (50°F). Humidity, 6 pm, 87 per cent. Rain, 24 hr to 6 pm, trace. Sun, 24 hr to 6 pm, nil. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,017.2 millibars, steady.
1,000 millibars=29.53in.

Saturday

London: Temp: max, 6 am to 6 pm, 12°C (54°F); min, 6 pm to 6 am, 10°C (50°F). Humidity, 6 pm, 86 per cent. Rain, 24 hrs to 6 pm, 0.09 ins. Sun, 24 hr to 6 pm, 0.4 hrs. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,019.8 millibars, rising.
1,000 millibars=29.53in.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Algiers	s	19	66	Cologne	s	6	43	Locarno	s	3	37	Oslo	r	7	45
Amstrdm	c	8	46	Copnhgn	f	7	45	London	r	10	50	Ottawa	c	4	39
Athens	s	14	57	Dublin	f	11	52	Luxmbrg	fog	1	34	Paris	f	10	50
Barcelona	s	11	52	Edinbrgh	f	10	50	Madrid	c	5	41	Reykjavik	c	-10	14
Beirut	f	11	52	Florence	c	9	48	Majorca	f	16	61	Rome	s	12	54
Belfast	c	9	48	Funchal	s	16	61	Malaga	s	16	61	Ronldswy	s	10	50
Berlin	s	6	43	Geneva	s	5	41	Malta	s	15	59	Stockholm	c	9	48
Bermuda	c	21	70	Gibraltar	f	17	63	Manchstr	f	10	50	Tel Aviv	r	15	59
Biarritz	s	13	55	Guernsey	c	11	52	Miami	c	25	77	Toronto	c	1	34
Birmnghm	f	12	54	Helsinki	c	7	45	Montreal	c	2	36	Venice	s	4	39
Bristol	c	12	54	Innsbruck	s	-3	26	Moscow	c	0	32	Vienna	s	5	41
Brussels	f	7	45	Istanbul	c	9	48	Munich	s	7	45	Warsaw	c	7	45
Budapst	fog	0	32	Jersey	d	11	52	Naples	s	9	48	Zurich	s	3	37
Cardiff	f	12	54	L Palmas	c	20	68	Nice	f	11	52				
Chicago	c	0	32	Lisbon	c	9	48	Nicosia	s	14	57				

Published daily except Sundays, January 1, December 25 and 26, and Good Friday by Times Newspapers Limited, London, WC1X 8EZ. Second Class Postage paid at New York, NY, price 70c. Subscription US$120 yearly by Air freight or $130 by direct Air Mail, 201 East 42nd Street, New York, NY, 10017, New York. Telephone: 986 9230. Inland and Air Edition Subscription rates on request.

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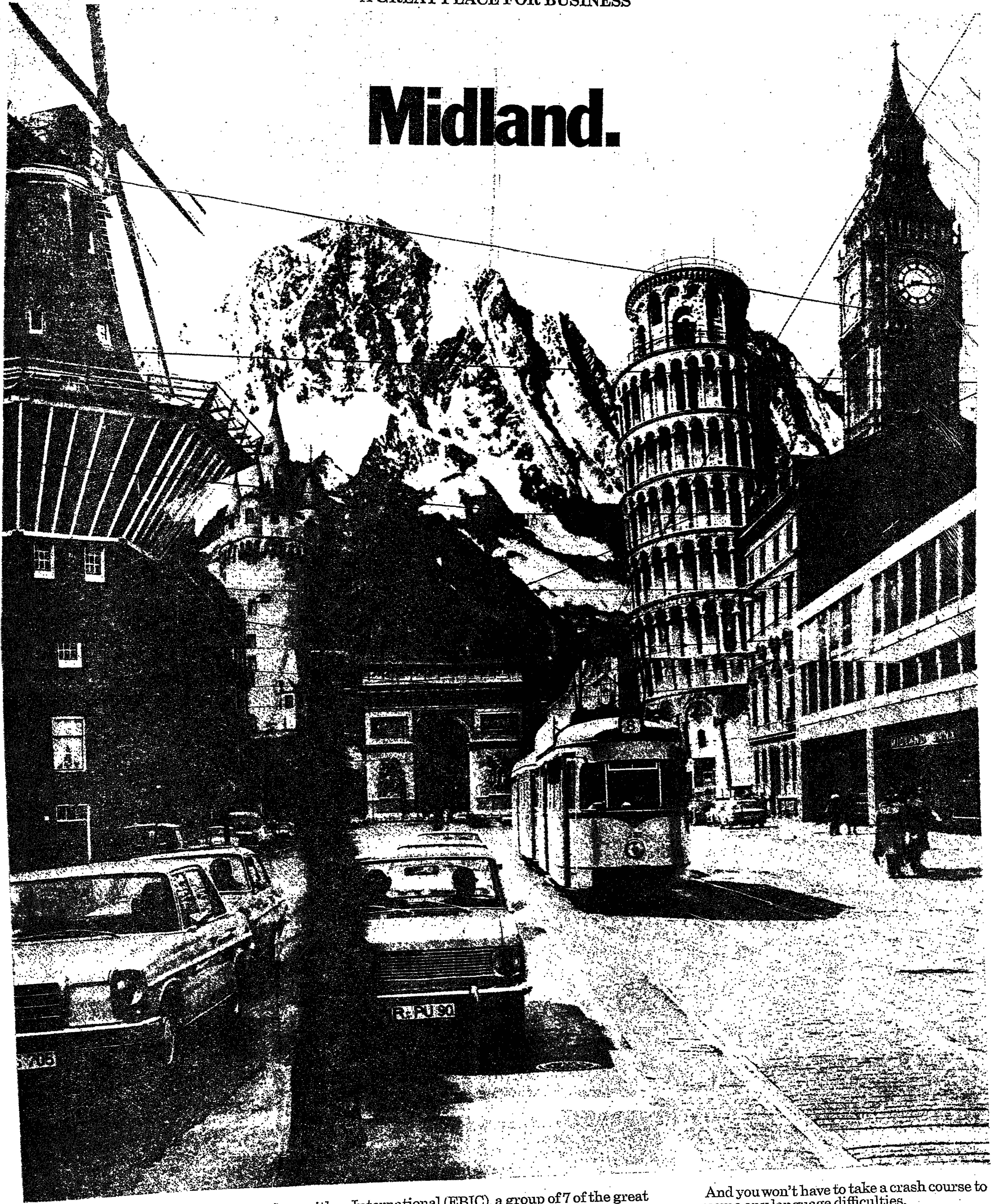
A GREAT PLACE FOR BUSINESS



As a whole, Western Europe is a place with limitless business possibilities.

But it's also a number of very different foreign countries which tends to complicate things a bit.

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Why don't you go to your Midland branch and talk to the manager about it?

Midland Bank
International Division

HOME NEWS

Holiday flights halted by unofficial 24-hour stoppage at Gatwick

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

Christmas holiday flights in and out of Gatwick will be halted today by an unofficial strike of 500 ground staff, which has forced the British Airports Authority to close the airport for 24 hours from midnight last night.

Talks among union representatives yesterday failed to avert the one-day stoppage, which is in pursuit of a claim for extra payment for working near London. The authority has refused to pay a "London weighting" because the airport is 28 miles from the centre of the capital, 10 miles farther than the outer limit for such allowances.

The unofficial strike by white-collar and manual workers involves drivers, porters and firemen, and without the services of this last category the authority is obliged under the terms of its licence to close the airport because of the lack of safety cover.

Airlines operating scheduled flights and holiday tours from Gatwick were searching the country last night for airfields not operated by the authority so

British Caledonian, British Airtours (a subsidiary of British Airways), Laker Airways and Dan-Air are the chief operators at Gatwick, and about 10,000 people were expected to use the airport today. At this pre-Christmas peak, Gatwick normally handles about 160 flights during the day.

The authority staff's grievance is over special payments of about £85 made to employees of airlines using Gatwick, including British Airtours, to compensate for the high cost of living in the airport environs. Local authorities in the area also give a special allowance.

To help intending passengers and those meeting relatives or friends, the authority last night gave two telephone numbers at which flight information is available. Passengers are advised to call Crawley 27890 for information on British Caledonian flights, or Crawley 32199 for information regarding all other airlines.

QE 2 delayed: The Queen Elizabeth 2 was heading for Gibraltar yesterday 24 hours after being delayed at Southampton when 200 waiters and stewards walked off (our Southampton correspondent writes). The Cunarder was due to leave at 8 pm on Saturday with 1,700 passengers, on a 13-day Christmas cruise. But 30 minutes before sailing time the waiters and stewards walked off after learning that they would lose overtime money following a rescheduling of working hours.

After two hours of talks between Cunard and union officials, it was announced that the ship would sail, leaving about sixty waiters on the quayside. Cunard said: "We can manage quite well with the staff on board, and the passengers will not be inconvenienced in any way."

A boy Christmas shopping yesterday at Club Row pet market, east London.

Bill seen as move to end all 'blood' sports

Opponents of hare-coursing close in for kill

By Diana Geddes

A government Bill "to make illegal the revolting practice of hare-coursing", to use the Prime Minister's words, will be introduced in Parliament early next year.

It seeks to ban the competitive open-air racing of greyhounds after live hares. It will almost certainly not ban the hunting of hares with beagles or harriers, though some Labour MPs are trying to include such a measure in the Bill. Nor will it prohibit a farmer from setting his dog, or dogs, on hares, provided his declared object is control rather than sport.

If the Bill becomes law anyone who takes part in, or allows his land to be used for, coursing matches will be liable to a fine, of probably at least £100 for the first offence and £200 or more for a second offence.

Exactly 50 years after the first Bill was introduced, hare-coursing now looks certain to go the same way as bear-baiting and cock fighting. There have been many previous private members' attempts to ban the sport, but only once before has the Government given it official backing.

That was in 1970, when the Labour Government's Bill passed its second reading by 207 votes to 70, but failed to get through all its stages before the general election. Although there was a free vote, as there almost certainly will be on the new Bill, the House divided clearly along party lines, only one Labour MP voting against the measure and seven Conservative MPs for it.

Those who oppose the Bill claim that the direct effects would be small. It would save about 600 hares a year from death at coursing meetings for an alternative, possibly more painful, death they ay.

It would deprive no more than about 1,000 people of all social classes of the opportunity to test the relative skills of their dogs at the 80 meetings organized each season by the 24 hare-coursing clubs affiliated to the National Coursing Club.

But the indirect effect of the Bill could be much greater, it is claimed. Supporters of field sports fear that this is the thin edge of the wedge in a campaign to ban all "blood" sports.

Replying to a recent early day Commons motion proposing that the hare-coursing Bill should be extended to include all blood sports, Mr Short, Leader of the House, said that one step at a time was enough for him. But he added:

"If we can get the legislation on hare-coursing through the House during this session it will be a major step forward and we can then look towards dealing with other sports."

Sir Richard Goodwin, secretary of the British Field Sports Society, said he was seriously worried by that "sinister" statement. He felt that all field sports were threatened. The society would fight the Bill as hard as it could.

It is not clear, however, which sports would be included in any general ban. The field sports lobby claims that the prohibitionists want to stop everything, including pheasant shooting and even fishing.

Many of the anti-blood sports group see that argument as an attempt to bring them into ridicule and to turn potential supporters against them.

They are against only those sports which involve cruelty, they say, but it is not clear what is meant by cruelty. The League Against Cruel Sports restricted its campaigns to sports where one animal is set against another, as in fox-hunting, beagling, otter and stag hunting.

Mrs Lilah Shennan, chairman of the National Coursing Club (NCC), is certain that the campaign against hare-coursing is founded on misunderstanding and ignorance. The club has written to all MPs, inviting them to a attend a meeting. Thirty-six have said they would like to attend, but only two of them are Labour MPs.

All the club's meetings are run under strict rules although the penalty for infringement is only expulsion from the club. Beaters drive up a hare to where the "slipper" is waiting with two dogs on a special double collar. If he judges the hare to be fit and in good condition, he gives it a minimum 80 yards start and then slips the dogs.

The chase starts and a "judge" on horseback follows, awarding points for speed, turning ability and general coursing skill. A maximum of only one point is allotted for the kill. The NCC estimates that one in every three hares escape unscathed.

Contrary to a widespread belief, fostered by a television film a few years ago of "park" coursing in Northern Ireland, hares in England are not captured and then released for coursing events. It is allowed under NCC rules to ground for coursing into wh[illegible] hares have been artificia[illegible] introduced during the previ[illegible] six months. That is to ens[illegible] that the hare has a thorou[illegible] knowledge of the territory.

Hares are not run to exha[illegible]tion, it is claimed. The avera[illegible] length of a course, according [illegible] the Scott Henderson report [illegible] cruelty to wild animals in 19[illegible] is 30-35 seconds. Most ha[illegible] that are caught are kil[illegible] instantly, the NCC claims. V[illegible] seldom are they torn to piec[illegible]

In their 130-page *Review [illegible] Coursing*, carried out for [illegible] British Field Sports Society [illegible] 1971, Mr Owen Stable, QC, a[illegible] Mr R. Stuttard said the long[illegible] time they witnessed for a [illegible] from the time the hare w[illegible] seized was 48 seconds; [illegible] average time was 23 seconds

The Scott Henderson reco[illegible]mendations on hare-coursi[illegible] have been used by both si[illegible] to support their case. T[illegible] report came out against banni[illegible] any field sport, but hesita[illegible] slightly on hare-coursing on t[illegible] ground that it could not [illegible] justified as a means of contr[illegible]

But the report found th[illegible] "coursing involves no mo[illegible] suffering than the shooting [illegible] hares as ordinarily practise[illegible] Indeed, there can be no co[illegible]parison between the lingeri[illegible] death of a hare that is shot and wounded and the qui[illegible] death of a hare that is cours[illegible] and caught." The report ma[illegible] no specific recommendation [illegible] coursing, but decided that t[illegible] degree of cruelty involved w[illegible] "not sufficient to justify [illegible] prohibition".

Farmworkers militant as pay talks resume

By Our Labour Editor

Wage negotiations affecting more than 200,000 agricultural workers resume today against a background of threats of unprecedented industrial action on the farms.

After rejecting an offer of £27.80 a week basic rate, leaders of the National Union of Agricultural and Allied Workers will press the Agricultural Wages Board to move nearer the union's claim of £35 a week. Union leaders walked out of the last meeting of the board and, failing concessions today, a special meeting of the NUAAW executive will discuss calls for food strikes.

Feeling over the pay offer is running particularly high in East Anglia. Mr Jack Boddy, leader of the union's West Norfolk branch, said yesterday: "The farmworkers are realizing that a strike seems to be the only solution [illegible] more militant. Their actual take-home pay is £12 a week below that in other industries."

He gave a warning that strikes on the farms would have an immediate effect on housewives "because the farmworkers would have the active cooperation of the Transport and General Workers' Union. The supply of fresh vegetables and milk would cease from the moment we came out on strike".

The farmers' two-part offer gives a new basic rate of £27.80, a rise of £1.60 on present minima, plus a "threshold" payment of £1 a week when the cost of living rises by 13 per cent, and a further £1 for each 3 per cent rise after that. Such an arrangement, the employers argue, would maintain the re[illegible] value of the award.

That view was disputed la[illegible] night by the Low Pay Un[illegible] which said in a memorandu[illegible] that the "threshold" paymen[illegible] were "far less generous" tha[illegible] those under Phase Three of th[illegible] Conservatives' statutory pa[illegible] policy. It argued that wherea[illegible] farmworkers gained £4.40 fro[illegible] Phase Three threshold machi[illegible]ery, similar price rises ne[illegible] year would result in only [illegible] more under the present offe[illegible] The unit suggested that thres[illegible]old payments should start whe[illegible] the Retail Price Index showe[illegible] a rise of more than 5 per cen[illegible] and called on the farmers t[illegible] concede the TUC's minimum wage target of £30 a week basi[illegible] rate.

The NUAAW has appealed t[illegible] Mr Wilson, to Mr Foot, th[illegible] Secretary of State for Emplo[illegible]ment, and to the Minister [illegible] [illegible] workers' case. [illegible] Reginald Bottini, the union's general sec[illegible]retary, said last night: "W[illegible] believe that senior minister[illegible] should be aware of the long term threat to food productio[illegible] which the farm wages issue ha[illegible] created."

The farmers' offer, which wa[illegible] imposed on the workers' si[illegible] as an award by the Agricultur[illegible] Wages Board, is due to opera[illegible] from the middle of next month If it is not confirmed today, th[illegible] package is almost certain to b[illegible] delayed.

The award was made las[illegible] month at a record 13-hour meet[illegible]ing of the board, when the five independent members side[illegible] with the farmers, as is usually the case. The NUAAW representatives on the Board voted against it.

Time may be running out for disease controllers

Agriculture

By Our Veterinary Correspondent

The continuing presence of swine vesicular disease, which shows no sign of coming under control two years after its first appearance here, and the reappearance of sheep scab are worrying the veterinary profession and many farmers. Swine vesicular disease has to be eradicated in a country where foot-and-mouth disease is tackled by slaughter rather than vaccination, because of the problems of initially differentiating the two diseases.

It is being questioned whether the Ministry of Agriculture veterinary staff could cope with a future outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease while still having to deal with even the mechanical workload of swine vesicular disease. Time may be running out, therefore, and it is unfortunate that veterinary staff now have to be diverted because of sheep scab.

The first outbreak of sheep scab in England since 1952 was confirmed in January, 1973, and by the end of that month 27 outbreaks had been found in Lancashire and the West Riding. The disease seemed to disappear in the summer, but 21 outbreaks were confirmed between September, 1973 and March, 1974.

Emergence of the disease has recently recurred and the situation has become further complicated by outbreaks in Scotland, the first since 1941. The seasonal pattern suggests that the parasitic mites are holing up during the summer on protected areas of the skin of carrier sheep, a known feature of the disease. The winter activity of the mites then produces outbreaks, as few sheep farmers now winter-dip.

The reduction in winter-dipping has been associated with an increase in parasitic keds and lice, so that farmers might well put down irritation and wool loss to those other causes and miss true sheep scrab for some time. Harvest mites may also produce severe irritation, and mycotic dermatitis (which is commoner as a result of the excessively wet weather) may add to the confusion.

The disease is highly contagious and is characterized by irritation, scab formation, loss of wool, unthriftiness and possibly severe economic losses in lambs. It would be serious, therefore, if sheep scab became widespread and especially if it entered the hill flocks, where it is much more difficult to inspect widely scattered stock. Control might be a greater problem today, as there is more traffic in sheep and fewer farmers are dipping. Indeed, one of the reasons for rejecting the National Farmers' Union call for the restoration of compulsory dipping was the widespread lack of dipping facilities, a position not helped by the fact that spraying is ineffective.

The Cook report of 1964 recommended the phasing out of the persistent organochlorine dips, so that organophosphorus or carbamate-based dips are now widely used against blowfly. Many of these, however, are relatively ineffective against scab mites, and gamma BHC is the only dip approved in Britain for treating sheep scab. In using this chemical, we have to keep one eye on the position in Argentina where, because in some areas the scab mites have become resistant to gamma BHC, sheep scab is an increasingly worrying problem.

More than 300 outbreaks of swine vesicular disease have now cost over £6m in compensation, quite apart from ancillary costs and all the inconvenience of restriction orders on stock movement. Tougher measures are gradually being brought in to deal with the two main factors: first, the recycling of the resistant virus through waste food; and, second, the difficulty posed by dealers who distribute pigs widely and frequently about the country in criss-cross patterns which probably appear in the nightmares of the Chief Veterinary Officer.

Perhaps it is too early to expect the closing down of many swill-feeding premises, and the tighter supervision of those that remain, to be having a marked effect (particularly as some virus must be still stored away in deep freezes). But if the disease continues beyond next summer, it will indicate that essentially it is more than a matter of mere recycling.

The constant movement of pigs will almost certainly soon have to be brought under control by new legislation.

[illegible] back over the history of swine vesicular disease in Britain, and noting that sheep scab has been with us for at least two years, it is sometimes asked whether an island country such as this should not pursue a more rigorous and ruthless policy at the first sign of a new disease, however inconvenient and costly. Once a serious disease gets away, the associated costs rise alarmingly.

ADVERTISEMENT

SOUTH AFRICAN SPORTS NEWS

South African Sportsmen and women had a banner year in 1974. They won many world titles in Golf and internal sporting activities experienced a boom with a marked increase in multi-racial meetings in sports such as Boxing, Cycling, Athletics, Rugby, Tennis, Soccer, Squash, Hockey, Cricket, Weightlifting, etc.

When South African sportsmen are deprived of international competition, all of our sportsmen and women of all races are affected. Our thanks to the hundreds of free-world sportsmen, some of whom are shown on this page, who share our desire to remove politics from sports.

We believe that sport should be played by everyone regardless of race, colour or creed.

The Committee for Fairness in Sport, which is an independent non-governmental group of sportsmen, sponsors this message in the interest of reporting the facts, and not the fiction, of South African sport.

RUGBY: The fabulous British Lions break away with the South African Leopards team in pursuit. Wearing the sweatband at the back of the scrum is successful tour Captain Willie John McBride.

TENNIS: Arthur Ashe, U.S.A., and Tom Okker, Netherlands, seen in action together at Ellis Park Centre Court, Johannesburg. Both of these great International stars are regular visitors to South Africa.

GOLF: ... off during a practise round at one of Johannesburg's leading golf courses. Recently Gary sponsored Tsbabalala to the U.S.A. and Australia.

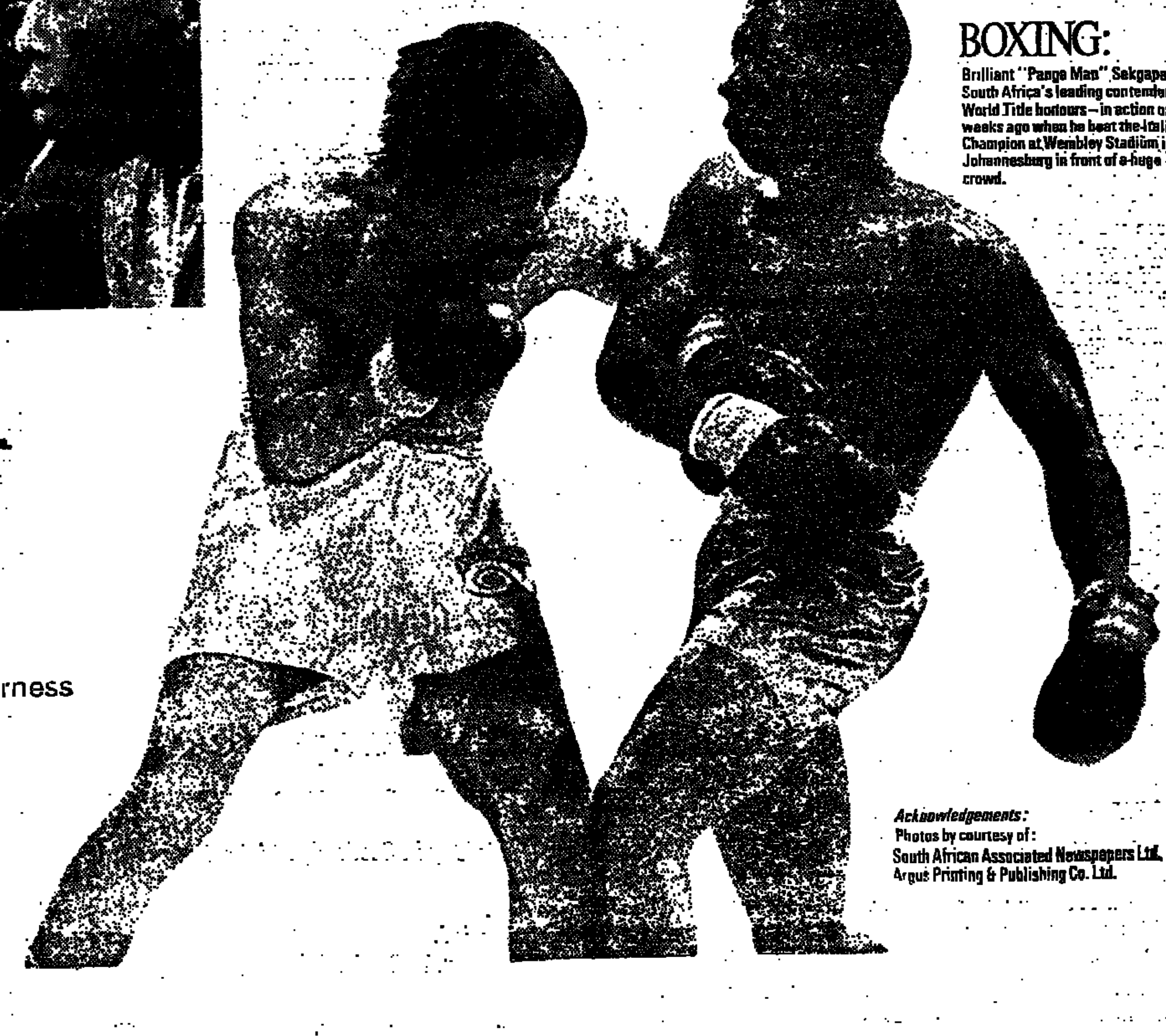
... competition held at the ...

SOCCER: The game was fast and furious in a recent S.A. Soccer competition played at the Rand Stadium, Johannesburg.

BOXING: Youth shows its enthusiasm in the ring as these two South African youngsters battle for honours.

ATHLETICS: Ewald Bonzet and Titus Mamabola pictured sharing a moment of exhausted elation after coming first and second in the 5000 metres at an International Athletics Meeting held in South Africa. in April, 1974.

SPECTATORS: All over the world spectators are the same as these South Africans watching a tense struggle being played out on the field.



BOXING: Brilliant "Pange Man" Sekgapane—South Africa's leading contender for World Title honours—in action only weeks ago when he beat the Italian Champion at Wembley Stadium in Johannesburg in front of a huge crowd.

CYCLING: A highly competitive sport rapidly increasing in popularity amongst all the peoples of South Africa.

Published by:
The Committee for Fairness in Sport.

Chairman:
G. P. E. Wolmarans,
P.O. Box 23937,
JOUBERT PARK,
2044,
SOUTH AFRICA.

Acknowledgements:
Photos by courtesy of:
South African Associated Newspapers Ltd.
Argus Printing & Publishing Co. Ltd.

WEST EUROPE AND OVERSEAS

Arab ministers to meet in Cairo for talks on improving guerrilla relations with Jordan

From Paul Martin
Beirut, Dec 22

Egypt, Syria, Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) will discuss how to implement the Arab summit decision on the PLO at a meeting in Cairo in 10 days' time. The talks, the first to be held by the four since the Rabat summit, will concentrate on improving relations between Jordan and the PLO.

Although Jordan acceded to Arab wishes by joining in the decision to recognize the PLO as "sole representative" of the Palestinian people, there has been little or no improvement in their relations. Indeed, as recently as a week ago, senior advisers of King Husain were expressing deeply felt doubts about whether the old wounds could be healed.

For its part, the PLO decided at a meeting of its 43-man central council to halt the anti-Jordan propaganda campaign it has waged since the civil war of September 1970. However, on the basic issues that divide King Husain and his regime from the PLO leadership there did not appear to be much progress from either side.

The Palestinians intend to press at the Cairo talks, which will be at foreign minister level or its equivalent, for the reestablishment of a PLO political and military presence in Jordan. They also demand the same freedom of action that they enjoy at present in most Arab capitals.

This is likely to be the stumbling block. Jordan has made it clear that it does not trust the PLO's motives and remains suspicious of the PLO's intentions regarding the existing order in the kingdom.

Mr Zeid Rifai, the Jordan Prime Minister, declared last week that the time had come for the PLO to "bravely and clearly define its stand" towards Jordan. Mr Rifai also pointed out that while Jordan was ready to cooperate with the PLO in its new role, it intended to do so within a "clear and agreed" framework to avoid future misunderstandings.

Clearly, much ground has to be covered before any semblance of mutual confidence is reestablished between Jordan and the PLO. Indeed, it was only after intense diplomatic activity on the part of Syria and Egypt, with Mr Abdel Halim Khaddam, the Syrian Foreign Minister, making a special trip to Amman, that Jordan was persuaded to attend the Cairo meeting.

In addition to the vital question of Jordan-PLO relations, the four participants will also turn their attention to the possibility of resuming the Geneva talks. So far, the question of the PLO's status and participation in the initial stages of these talks has been left conveniently fluid. It has already been made known that the PLO would accept Egypt to speak on its behalf in exploratory discussions.

What is not clear is whether the foreign ministers' talks will pave the way for a full summit of the four parties. In recent weeks President Sadat, President Assad, King Husain and Mr Yassir Arafat have all spoken of the dangers of renewed war in the Middle East.

However, the meeting will be the forerunner of a number of top level Arab meetings to discuss the state of play in the Arab-Israel conflict. President Assad is due to make a brief visit to Lebanon, the first in nearly two decades by a Syrian President, to discuss defence matters of mutual interest. This is to be followed two weeks later by a visit to Damascus by King Faisal of Saudi Arabia.

Rescuers searching for the bodies of skiers buried by an avalanche which killed nine people near Kitzbühel, Austria, on Saturday.

Mr Rockefeller given important functions

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington, Dec 22

The United States Government continued its far flung Christmas dispersal today. President Ford took to the ski slopes of Vail, Colorado, having heaped responsibilities on the willing shoulders of his new Vice-President, Mr Nelson Rockefeller.

However, the Vice-President in turn departed for New York, bound later for a holiday in Puerto Rico. And the ninety-third Congress, which placed both of them, unelected, in office, has adjourned after going down in history as the first United States legislature to expose and depose a President. Its final act was the cliff-hanger passage of the Trade Reform Bill. President Ford took the Bill, along with 50 others, to Colorado and signature is expected within the next few days.

Mr Rockefeller, appearing yesterday for his first official White House meeting, was assured that the President's Oval Office will always be open to him. "He can pick up the phone and call me, or walk in any time", Mr Ford said, according to his press secretary.

The Vice-President attended a meeting between Mr Ford and his principal economic advisers and Cabinet members. Various sources suggested that Mr Ford is at last set to take strong measures to stem the recession, which will be announced in his State of the Union message in mid-January.

The White House spokesman admitted that Mr Ford would be studying all the options while in the snows of the Rockies. Certainly, Mr Rockefeller's powerful advocacy of new policies could give a much needed fillip to confidence in the competence of this Administration.

According to the official explanations, given after a Ford-Rockefeller meeting lasting over two hours, Mr Rockefeller is to become a major force within the Administration, and will not be left as a frustrated stand-in.

In addition to his vice-chairmanships of both the Domestic Council and the National Security Council, he is, the White House said, to help to recruit talented staff and explain Mr Ford's policies. His past record of activism suggests he will prove an asset in both regards.

One of his first tasks will be to find a new director for the Domestic Council to replace Mr Kenneth Cole, a resigning Nixon appointee. Mr Ford also asked him to head a review of whether to revive the office of White House science adviser abolished by Mr Nixon amid great controversy.

In another move, seen as a significant break with the practice of possibly all past Presidents, Mr Ford has ordered the Vice-President's staff advisers to attend White House staff meetings. This is assumed to be in the interest of closer coordination.

On the foreign side, Mr Rockefeller was appointed to a committee headed by Mr Robert Murphy, the former senior ambassador, which is considering how to strengthen foreign policy. As the prince who brought Dr Kissinger to court there is little doubt there that Mr Rockefeller's voice will be heard.

Mourners held after Mass for shot Basque

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, Dec 22

About 55 mourners were arrested after some 1,000 people attended a requiem Mass in San Sebastián for a young Basque who was shot dead by police, apparently by mistake, it was reported in Madrid today.

Señor José Miguel Zalegui, died of gunshot wounds last Wednesday after police at a road block in Mondragón, near San Sebastián, opened fire on a car in which he was a passenger. So far, no evidence has been produced to show that either he or the driver had any connexion with Basque extremists for whom the police were searching.

The police announced that the driver of the car, a veteran of General Franco's Blue Division which fought for Hitler in the Second World War, would be prosecuted, apparently for failing to stop in time.

Mr Sadat to visit France early next year

Cairo, Dec 22.—M Sauvagnargues, the French Foreign Minister, met President Sadat for an hour today to discuss the Middle East and bilateral relations.

"We talked of the French role regarding the search for a settlement", M Sauvagnargues said. The president appreciated this positive role. France advocates Palestinian participation in the Geneva peace talks and a settlement based on United Nations resolutions.

Mr Sadat is to make a state visit to France toward the end of January or early February.

French 'spy' sentenced to death in Lebanon

Beirut, Dec 22.—François Rangée, a Frenchman, aged 38, was sentenced to death by a Lebanese military court yesterday for spying on behalf of Israel, according to an informed source. It said he was found guilty of hiring one of the cars used by Israel commandos who killed three Palestinian leaders during a raid on Beirut on April 10 last year.

The commandos, who landed on a deserted beach on the outskirts of Beirut, burst into the flats of the Palestinians in Verdun Street and shot them dead with sub-machine guns. Several vehicles with drivers were waiting for the commandos when they landed.

The source said M Rangée was expected to appeal against the sentence within the 15 days allowed. He was found guilty by a majority of the five judges—a general assisted by a civilian judge and three officers.

The court found that M Rangée hired a car used in the Israel raid under the name of Gilbert Rambert, of Belgian nationality, the source said. Three witnesses at the trial gave evidence that François Rangée and Gilbert Rambert were the same person.

20 hurt in Rome as police stop street battle

From Our Correspondent

Rome, Dec 22.—Three policemen were shot and wounded in a pitched street battle in Rome today between left-wing and right-wing extremists and the police who were trying to keep them apart. Another 14 policemen were injured, including one seriously, by firebombs and stones thrown at them by the demonstrators.

At least three demonstrators were seriously injured. One of them had bad burns caused by a firebomb.

Two of the shot policemen were in a serious condition in hospital.

Tension has been building up all week in the working class district of Monteverde Nuovo since it was announced that a neo-fascist meeting would be held there today.

Large forces of riot police were sent to the meeting which was addressed by Signor Pino Rauti, a member of Parliament of the right-wing Italian social movement. About 500 people turned up for the meeting, many wearing helmets and carrying clubs.

The police said that the fighting began when about 400 left-wing extremists, also helmeted and armed with clubs, chains and firebombs, tried to break up the meeting. It was not immediately clear which side fired the shots that wounded the policemen.

The street battle was one of the worst seen in Rome, according to a senior police official. The police arrested nine people during the fighting and detained about 40 later.

Congress investigation of CIA seems inevitable

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington, Dec 22

Spokesmen for the Central Intelligence Agency said today that the massive exposure by *The New York Times* this morning of "illegal" CIA counter-intelligence activities inside the United States during the Nixon years might bring an official response tomorrow. They would give no further comment, but all the signs are that a thorough investigation of the CIA is now inevitable in the new Congress.

The newspaper, in a long article by Mr Seymour Hersh, accused the CIA of violating the 1947 law which established the agency and directed it to keep its dirty tricks abroad. Explicitly, the CIA has no police or internal security [illegible] United States is officially the province of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The article reports that Dr James Schlesinger, when briefly head of the CIA last year before moving on to the Pentagon, put an end to its illegal activities and dismissed some of the staff. It added that the Justice Department might now be asked to determine whether there should be prosecutions.

Mr Hersh reports that the special operations branch of the agency's counter-intelligence department conducted surveillance of some 10,000 opponents of the Vietnam war during the Nixon years. There were said to be computerized files on them.

He quotes unnamed sources, stating that the CIA even recruited informants and penetrated dissident organizations. In addition the CIA, starting back in the 1950s, conducted break-ins, buggings and mail interception operations, principally against foreign intelligence connexions here. This is the private fief of the FBI and its officials, unnamed, were stated to be indignant at the usurpation.

Mr Hersh raises difficult questions about the role of Mr Richard Helms, the CIA director for most of the period, who is now Ambassador to Iran. He reports the suggestion that the White House tapes convey an awareness by President Nixon of what was going on.

Mr Hersh names Mr James Angleton, head of the highly secret CIA counter-intelligence department, as the man responsible for the direction of the [illegible] and Mr Richard Ober, now at the White House as the liaison man with Mr Helms.

There is surprise here that Mr Hersh managed to get Mr Angleton to talk on the telephone, and somewhat indiscreetly at that. He is quoted denying that the CIA had ever operated purely domestically and he apparently suggested, as did many other CIA sources quoted in the article, that anti-war activity here was directed by foreign subversion.

For instance, Mr Angleton is said to have claimed that the CIA obtained through an American agent in Moscow intelligence on the bombings perpetrated here during the high tide of anti-war activity.

Mr Angleton, it is stated, then added: "It came from Moscow. Our source there is still active, and still productive—the opposition still doesn't know."

Hanoi criticizes British attitude to Vietnam

By A. M. Rendel

The North Vietnamese Government yesterday reacted sharply to the British decision to replace Mr John Fawcett, the British Ambassador in Hanoi, by a chargé d'affaires.

A spokesman of the North [illegible] in Hongkong, that the British Government had adopted an "inappropriate attitude" towards both the North Vietnamese Government and the Vietcong's Provisional Revolutionary Government in South Vietnam.

This, the spokesman added, was the reason why North Vietnam had never accepted Mr Fawcett's credentials, although he arrived in Hanoi last January.

North Vietnam has now, therefore, openly admitted what was long assumed, that the British Government's decision not to move towards recognition of the Vietcong is the reason why Mr [illegible] to recognize the Vietcong, and does not intend to do so for the foreseeable future.

Mr Fawcett, it is pointed out in London, has completed the one year which is the normal tour of duty in Hanoi, and there seems no point in sending an ambassador to replace him, while there is no prospect that he will be able to present his credentials and operate as an ambassador in the normal way.

Libya steps up aid for Malta

Tripoli, Dec 22.—Libya and Malta have agreed to step up cultural, technical, and economic cooperation at the end of a visit to Malta by Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader. Libya will invest in industry and tourism.—Reuter.

Christmas greetings from The Pope

Rome, Dec 22.—Pope Paul sent Christmas greetings to the whole world today and expressed the hope that Holy Year, which begins on Christmas Eve, would be propitious for the peace and salvation of the world.

European Law Report
Week ended December 20

Court of Justice of the European Community

EEC jurisdiction over sports regulations

Between: Bruno Nils Olaf Walrave, Longinus Johannes Norbert Koch and International Cyclist Union: Koninklijke Nederlandse Wielren Unie and Federacion Espanola Ciclismo.

(Referred for preliminary decision by the Dutch district court at Utrecht).

Before the president, Judge R. Lecourt, and Judges C. O'Dalaigh Lord Mackenzie Stuart, A. Donner, R. Monaco, J. Mertens de Wilmars, P. Pescatore, H. Kutscher, M. Sorensen, Mr Advocate-General J. P. Warner.

Facts:

This was a question of interpreting Articles 7, 48, and 59 of the EEC Treaty, and EEC Regulation No 1612/68 (free establishment of workers).

The two petitioners in the main action, Messrs Walrave and Koch, both of Dutch nationality, are regularly engaged, for remuneration, as motor-cycle pace-makers for bicycle races known as "stayers". They work for individual cyclists, for cyclists associations and for commercial sponsors. They are both involved in the cycle-racing world championship the bye-rules of which, laid down by the International Cyclists' Union, provide that, from 1973 onwards, the pace-maker shall be of the same nationality as the stayer. The petitioners in the main action claim that this provision runs counter to the EEC Treaty inasmuch as it bars a pace-maker who is a national of an EEC member state from providing his services to a stayer from another member state. Hence their action against the Royal Dutch Cyclists' Association and the Federacion Espanola Ciclismo (organizers of the world championship 1973), with a view to obtaining the annulment of the bye-rules. They further argued that the Dutch court should enjoin the defendants to admit to world championships racing teams formed by either one of the petitioners and by stayers not of Dutch nationality provided they were nationals of other EEC member states. By order of May 19, 1974, the Dutch district court referred to the European court three questions concerning the interpretation of certain Community law rules and their applicability under national law.

Judgment:

Relevancy of EEC law to sports and games—discrimination:

In substance, the questions referred to the European court by the Dutch district court amount to an inquiry as to whether Articles 7, 48 and 59 of the EEC Treaty in conjunction with EEC Regulation No 1612/68 (free establishment of workers) overrule a provision by the International Cyclists' Union, relating to stayers' races with pace-makers which lays down that the pace-maker shall be of the same nationality as the stayer whom he assists. In particular, did this provision not run counter to the principle of nondiscrimination between nationals of member states?

In the first place, games and sports must be held, in the light of Treaty objectives, to come under Community rules only to the extent that they constitute an economic activity in the sense of Article 2 of the EEC Treaty. Whenever such an activity is of a wage-earning nature or whenever it constitutes a service for remuneration, it is under the rule of Community law, more particularly under Articles 48 to 51, or 59 to 66, of the Treaty as the case may be.

Those provisions implement the general rule of Article 7 of the Treaty and abolish, within the professional fields to which they apply, any discrimination whatsoever based on nationality. The exact nature of the contract under which such services are given does not matter, since the rule of non-discrimination on grounds of nationality applies to the whole field of wage-earning labour and remunerated services. However, the restriction does not apply to the composition of national teams. This is a question concerning the very technicality of games, and is alien to economic considerations. The above limitation on the non-discrimination rule shall, however, be restricted to its proper aim—which is to form truly national teams.

It is for the national judge to assess and qualify the nature of the activity which is submitted to his scrutiny. More specifically, it is for him to decide whether, in any particular kind of competition, pace-maker and runner form one team.

Relevancy of EEC law to private law contracts:

It has been argued before the court that the EEC law rules under reference apply to acts of public authority, but that they do not apply to private law contracts or similar private pronouncements or agreements.

In fact the rule of non-discrimination does not only hold in respect of acts of public authority, but extends to rules, bye-laws, agreements of any kind as long as those rules, bye-laws or agreements were made, or entered into, with a view to establish, mutually and collectively, salaried work or services. This follows from Articles 7, 48 and 59 EEC Treaty, all of which aim, within their respective domains, at the elimination of any discrimination whatsoever on the grounds of nationality.

Indeed, what would remain of the rule that member states shall abolish any obstacles to the free movement of persons and service—a major objective of the Community solemnly proclaimed in Article 3 of the EEC Treaty—if the abolition of state-made obstacles could be put to nothing by rules of groups or associations having no public authority?

Furthermore, as the conditions of work existing in different member states are regulated by acts of parliament or by other public enactments, to uphold the Treaty only in the face of those public enactments would be tantamount to creating serious discrimination as regards the application of EEC law. The fact that Article 48 (abolition of any discrimination based on nationality between workers of member states as regards remuneration) extends to agreements of a non-public nature is well established.

Activities referred to in Article 59 do not intrinsically distinguish themselves from those referred to in Article 48, except for the fact that they are carried out without any employment contract. This does not justify a more restrictive interpretation of Article 59. It follows from the foregoing that the provisions of Articles 7, 48 and 59 EEC Treaty may be taken into consideration by national courts in order to assess the validity of, or the consequences deriving from, provisions contained in the bye-laws of a sports and games organization.

Territorial limits of EEC law:

The national court further inquired whether and to what extent the rule of non-discrimination shall apply to legal contracts established within the framework of a world-wide federation of games or sports. The European court has also been asked to state whether the legal situation might be different according to whether the competition takes place within the Community or in third countries. From the overriding position of the non-discrimination rule within the treaty framework it follows that this rule shall apply to all legal contracts whenever such contracts, either by virtue of the place in which they were drawn up, or by the place in which they produce their effect, may be said to exist within the Community. It is for the national court to assess whether this is so in the case before it and, as regards the effect of such contracts, to rule whether there has occured a violation of the non-discrimination rule from case to case.

Direct applicability of EEC rules in municipal law:

Finally, the Dutch court inquired whether Article 59(1) and, possibly, Article 7(1) of the EEC Treaty are directly applicable in member states.

As the court has stated above, Article 59 aims at abolishing restrictions on freedom to provide services within the Community in respect of nationals of member states. Article 59 implements—in the field of services—the non-discrimination rule which Article 7 establishes in a general manner and which Article 48 implements in the wage-earning sector.

As the court has previously held (Judgment December 3, 1974, case 33/74—Van Binsbergen), Article 59 establishes, from the end of the transitional period, an unqualified prohibition of discrimination which, as far as the services of nationals of EEC states in EEC states are concerned, excludes, in the national legal order of member states, any restrictions or limitations founded on nationality.

Clearly, therefore, inasmuch as Article 59 aims at the abolition of any discrimination based on nationality, it does create as from the end of the transitional period, rights for the private citizen which national courts must protect.

هكذا من الأصل

Junior senator from Minnesota, aged 63, restored to ebullience after serious operation

Humphrey plans for Democratic Party

From Fred Emery
Washington, Dec 22

Mr Hubert Humphrey comes bounding into the Capitol Hill breakfast, grumbling vehemently because a late driver made him walk 24 blocks from his home. For the junior senator from Minnesota, aged 63, it is no mean feat. This time last year, he recalls, he was being discharged after an operation for an abdominal malignancy, and thought the end was not far off.

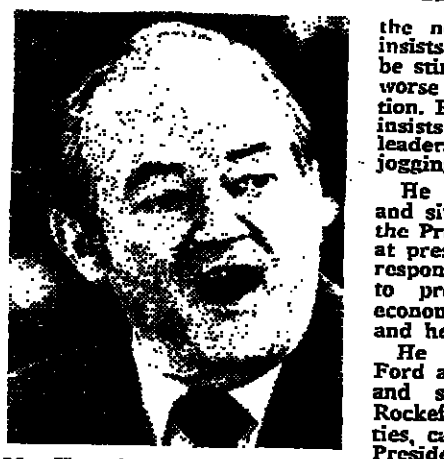
Now he seems restored to his ebullient, unstoppable self. He attacks his breakfast with gusto, just as he jousts irrepressibly with newspapermen he has known for years.

He has great plans for the Democratic Party in the next Congress. These do not, he insists, include a third campaign by him for the presidency. However, if the 1976 Democratic convention, in deadlock, should turn to him "that would be another ballgame", he says serenely.

Almost scoffing, he says this prospect is "as remote as my being the next astronaut to Jupiter", as "Well, not quite Jupiter", but he is not going to rule it out. After all, who could have thought Nelson Rockefeller would have become, at 66, Vice-President. He does not make the analogy, but he laughs at it.

Nevertheless, Mr Humphrey is adamant that he will never enter a primary campaign again, never campaign himself or employ campaign staff. His reason is the "hurt and embarrassment" of this past summer which he and his men were held up to suspicion and, in the case of some of the distant staff, to indictment for campaign funding offences. To look at every damn cheque" and wonder whether it has a hidden corporate contribution he says, beyond him now.

Instead, he is encouraging the other Democrats, by the dozen, to the field. He has a good word for them, saying: "We need to hear their voices." Of Mr Morris Udall, the first to declare formally, he says he is a "refreshing spirit".



Mr Humphrey: "Government needs good advice."

While they are all on the campaign trail, he jokes, "somebody's got to be back here taking care of policy. I think Hubert Humphrey can fill the void."

He means it. For a start he expects to become chairman of the important Joint Economic Committee of Congress. It is an advisory body really, not a legislative committee, but he can expect to be in almost continuous hearing session as he summons the economic experts to give testimony—"there are lots of new economists", he chortles—and all the regulatory agencies for investigation.

As one of the party's most respected leaders, he is trying to galvanize the older men into seizing the hour. He wants them to meet the party's election responsibility and hammer out policies that they can then take to the President and resolve, with him, into national policies. Mr Humphrey says Mr Carl Albert, the Speaker of the House and the party's most senior elected representative, agrees.

A conference of all the Democratic leaders is likely in the new year. Mr Humphrey insists that the economy must be stimulated, or face not only worse recession but worse inflation. He urges big tax cuts. He insists that "Presidents are for leadership", but he intends jogging Mr Ford's elbow.

He deplores sitting around and simply taking pot shots at the President, as Congress does at present; the elections put a responsibility on the Democrats to produce policies on the economy, food supply, energy, and health welfare.

He is scathing about Mr Ford and the men around him and scoffs that Mr Nelson Rockefeller, whatever his qualities, cannot become a "second President". But Mr Humphrey is also sounding a positive note for action.

"This Government needs good advice and sound planning", he says, "it has neither."

Mr Humphrey speaks sensibly about foreign policy. He advocates pursuing détente with the Soviet Union while calling for a better explanation of what it all means. He deplores the over-concentration on weaponry in the debate when, he insists, the priority problem, East and West, is economic. He calls for a scrutiny of all dealings with the Soviet Union that would be "tough but not bellicose".

If Congressional reform—in the sense of restoring the legislative branch to an active role, rather than the extremes of acquiescence or obstruction—is to flower, Mr Humphrey could be a prime mover. He is a decent man of wide experience and a progressive cast of mind. If his chief failing is still verbosity, his enthusiasm and optimism are still infectious.

With continuing good health he might yet finish as majority leader. In its way this would be a consolation prize for him and the country, for the narrow and now-lamented failure to make him the thirty-seventh President.

Why Mr Richardson accepted London post

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington, Dec 22

Mr Elliot Richardson agreed to become the next American Ambassador to Britain because Dr Kissinger's post of Secretary of State—the only Cabinet job in which he was interested—was not open to him, according to his friends.

Also he had concluded that he no longer had reasonable chances of standing for the presidency or any hope of defeating Mr Edward Kennedy for the Senate seat of his native Massachusetts. His friends said that only if President Ford and Vice-President Rockefeller were both to drop out of the running in 1976 would he think of returning from London as the potential candidate for the centre of the Republican Party.

His selection as Ambassador has not yet been announced, although British agrément has now been granted.

Mr David Broder, widely accepted as the country's foremost political reporter, suggests in the Washington Post today that London was not Mr Richardson's idea. Mr Richardson was ready for any high post at the White House, but that he finally acceded to the ambassadorship because of his devotion to duty.

Mr Broder adds that Mr Richardson has been assured by Dr Kissinger that he will have a leading status in forthcoming transatlantic energy, trade, monetary and military negotiations affecting the Western alliance. Mr Richardson knows better than to accept assurances at face value. But if he now does his homework he would be in line to be the first Secretary of State with real rather than professed knowledge of the economic crisis.

It is being suggested that President Ford, Mr Rockefeller and Mr Rumsfeld, the ambitious White House staff chief, are all glad to have removed Mr Richardson from the Washington scene.

Fragments from the life of a master designer

It was a soaking wet morning in Venice, and in search of the extremely nasty coffee that only the Venetians possess the recipe for, I happened to look up and see one of those helpful notices for tourists. "Museo Fortuny" it said, conjuring up a vague recollection of gloriously coloured pleated dresses, worn by beautiful women, a world of fantasy and luxury.

Reality is always slightly different. Setting off for the Museum, I came up against a wall—but turning very sharp right, down a little alley, there was a large double door in a high wall. Ring, for the Museum, it commanded. I rang. A head came out of an upper window, and uttered peahen screeches of "Mario! Mario!", who came and let me into a courtyard, green with trees and pots of plants, and at the top of a flight of stairs is the first floor of the Palazzo Pesaro, home of Mariano Fortuny y de Mandrazo, a Spaniard by birth, a Venetian by adoption.

There is one gigantic room, stretching from the Campo San Benero to the little canal at the back—a huge, shadowy room, with the Venetian bottleglass effect in the windows, enormous high ceilings, full of draperies, pictures, objects, the fragments left from a life of intense artistic activity.

Mario spoke no English, I speak no Italian, but have the mistaken belief that if I concentrate hard enough I shall understand—it works (perhaps) with Italian, but not with Russian, German or Finnish. But I did manage to gather that Fortuny was the son of a famous Spanish painter, highly praised by Gautier ("un jeune homme admirablement doué") and said by others to have "equalled Goya and approached Rembrandt", who died when the child was three, in 1874. The room is lined with paintings—by Fortuny's father, by himself, his portraits of his French wife Henriette, of his mother, of his sister the nun (or was it some other relation?). It seemed a little complicated. Busts of the Fortuny family contemplated huge and uninspiring copies of Goya, Velasquez and Tintoretto on easels. Though a painter himself, Fortuny's real interest was in fabrics—and there his genius manifested itself. The room is divided roughly into four, by enormous velvet hangings, dusty and dim now, but when you touch them and turn them to the light, the magic of a master colourist shows itself. There are piles of sample squares, too, scattered about the apartment, hand-printed cottons with designs adapted from the Renaissance, and velvets in subtle pinks, apricot and gold. In a glass case against the wall is an amazing evening coat, in black, gold and silver velvet, and a gigantic cloak, used in a production of Othello.

Looking round, I wondered where Fortuny got his extraordinary furniture. Most of the tables are giant sized, with a collection of heavy wooden chairs, no two of which seem to match—contrasting with ottomans swathed in velvet and piled high with cushions, painted by hand, or so Mario tells me in reverential tones. High on a cupboard is a vase with branches of honesty, side by side with one full of arrows. Pieces of oriental armour are scattered about, and there, in the middle, is a cast of Fortuny's hand—the square, practical hand of the artist, contrasting with the delicate, long-fingered grace of his wife's hand.

Opening a door in the corner Mario revealed his pride and joy—a model theatre, with the lighting still in perfect order—dawn to dusk, night, storm, cloud, radiant sunshine all pass swiftly over the tiny stage and backcloth. Further back is a model of a Roman theatre, at least six feet across. For Fortuny not only invented a method of stage lighting, but also designed for the stage, principally it seems for opera, in that I can discover paintings of scenes from Parsifal, and there was a production of Romeo and Juliet in addition to Othello—all enormous successes, says Mario. But what of the dresses, the beautiful clothes? Not one visible, only a full length portrait of Madame Fortuny, in one of the draped pleated dresses, dated 1935. The Fortunys invented a process of pleating silk semi-permanently, and by a special method of hand dying, produced some of the most covetable and extraordinary clothes in the history of fashion designing. The "Greek" dresses were usually straight, pleated columns of fabric, and unless you were tall, elegant and extremely thin, must have been very difficult to wear successfully. The vogue for them lasted from 1910 until the 1930s. They were never mass produced, though Fortuny had a shop in Paris at one time, and they were sold in New York and London. Englishwomen, with their dread of anything too remarkable or noticeable were not so enamoured of Fortuny as were the Americans and the French. Among many others in international society, the great Italian actress Eleanora Duse was dressed by Fortuny. In 1972 Fortuny's collection of old silks and velvet, dating back to the fourteenth century, acquired for reference, was sold at Christies. The dresses, now collector's pieces, come up at the salerooms, making up to £200 for particularly fine examples.

Below:
Apricot pleated evening dress, about 1912.
Given by Miss Irene Worth
to the Victoria and Albert Museum.

Overhead in the apartment are little, delicate handmade lampshades, the hand painted silk crumbling to pieces before your eyes, and round the corner is Fortuny's studio, full of huge, brightly coloured paintings which I took to be stage designs, and on the wall a poster which he had produced in 1899 in praise of butter. In the studio you feel that the artist may return at any time. Here is a lay figure, a half completed panel, the skull and horns of a large animal, and, over the sink, the multi-coloured smudges on the wall where he wiped off the surplus paint before cleaning his brushes.

Fortuny died in 1949, a much respected figure in Venice (in spite of being a Spaniard). For years he could be recognized by his "uniform" of dark blue suit, black cloak and beret. His widow, who died in 1956, left the apartment to the University to be kept as a museum.

Like Venice, it has a melancholy air. Suo genio multiforme, as the stone tablet in the courtyard says, was for the most ephemeral arts. Was he wealthy? It seems unlikely, as he was not particularly interested in the commercial aspects of his designs. Did he go on, like Paul Poiret, throwing out ideas and enthusiasm into his old age? How long will we remember Fortuny? It would be unfair to dismiss him as an eccentric whose influence has passed. Marilyn Quennell is writing his biography, and his designs are still produced in Venice; not, alas, the sensuous and beautiful velvets, but at the shop in the Via Marzo which has a little notice saying "Fortuny" they still have in stock 350 of his original designs, on cotton.

Never two coincidences without three, goes the proverb. In the exhibition of portrait drawings at the British Museum was an enchanting little portrait of ... these days I am going to find myself at a sale where there is a Fortuny dress going—just my size.

Philippa Toomey

In brief

US call for big tax cuts

Washington, Dec —The Congressional joint economic committee has recommended tax cuts of between $10,000m and $12,000m (£4.3m-£5.2m) next year to help the nation's sagging economy.

The committee also recommended an immediate easing of monetary policy, but opposed across-the-board wage and price controls.

Physicist leaves Russia

Moscow, Dec 27.—Dr Viktor Polsky, aged 44, the Jewish physicist, who had tried in vain for three years to get an exit visa to leave the Soviet Union, flew to Vienna today en route to Israel a month after getting his visa.

Joint chess winners

Moscow, Dec 22.—Mikhail Tal and Alexander Belyavevsky today emerged as joint winners of the Soviet Union's chess championship in Leningrad. Both players finished with 9.5 points.

Free Allendes' plea

Paris, Dec 22.—More than 400 French parliamentary deputies and senators have called on Chile to release Señora Laura Allende, sister of the late President Salvador Allende, who has cancer, and her daughter Marianne.

Turks' fear on bases

Ankara, Dec 22.—Turkey has again expressed its concern to Britain over the health of Turkish Cypriot refugees at British bases in Cyprus. Five have died in the past two weeks.

Franco-Iranian accord

Teheran, Dec 22.—M Chirac, the French Prime Minister, won agreement here today for construction by a French company of an underground rail system in Teheran and Iranian adoption of the French Secam colour television system.

All's well that ends...

Miami, Dec 22—Rescuers using air hammers and hand tools dug their way through solid rock today to save a 15-month-old girl trapped seven feet down a 22ft well.

Royal visit to India

The Prince of Wales will visit Delhi from February 20 to 22 on his way to Nepal. It will be his first visit to India.

Bhutan and Indian 'identity of views'

From Michael Hornsby
Delhi, Dec 22

India and its small Himalayan neighbour Bhutan today declared that they shared a "complete identity of views" on all matters during a visit to Delhi of King Jigme Singhye Wangchuck, Bhutan's 19-year-old ruler.

A press statement issued at the end of the visit said that in his talks with Indian leaders the King had reviewed a wide range of bilateral and international issues "in a spirit of deep mutual respect".

The two countries said they would "continue to maintain close coordination in their foreign policies" in line with the treaty of 1949, under which Bhutan agrees to be guided by India in the conduct of its foreign affairs. The King and Mrs Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, also "expressed their satisfaction with the existing arrangements between the two countries on matters of defence and security".

Critical British look at Unesco work

By Our Political Correspondent

The Government is taking a critical look at the work of Unesco in view of its recent Paris conference where a coalition of Arab and communist votes resulted in decisions to take discriminatory action against Israel.

In a letter to Mr Eric Moonman, Labour MP for Basildon, Mrs Hart, the Minister for Overseas Development, states that she has "tremendous sympathy" for Israel and was very sad that the majority in an international organization should behave in this way.

While rejecting the suggestion that Britain should withdraw contributions to Unesco's budget, she says that for some time she has felt that the organization was not giving the right emphasis to educational work. In her view, the distribution of Unesco's own budget needed a good deal of attention.

Mr Moonman said yesterday that he was encouraged by Mrs Hart's reply.

Pravda attacks American 'enemies of détente'

Moscow, Dec 22.—The newspaper Pravda said today that "enemies of détente" in the United States had been forced by public pressure to agree to a Government trade Bill lowering tariffs on imported Soviet goods. But at the same time they were trying to wreck the 1972 American-Soviet trade agreement by including in the Bill conditions "which in fact represent interference in the internal affairs of the Soviet Union".

Pravda's comment was the first published in Moscow since Congress on Friday approved the Bill which grants the Soviet Union the status of a most favoured nation, a provision of the Moscow-Washington agreement negotiated by Mr Nixon when President.

But a congressional amendment to the Bill makes this status conditional on the Kremlin's easing of procedures for Soviet citizens who want to emigrate and provides for a review within 18 months when most-favoured nation status could be withdrawn.

On Thursday, the Soviet Union issued documents declaring it had given the United States Government no assurances on its emigration policies and had even indicated that the number of Soviet Jews would drop.

Congressmen who had supported the amendment said they regarded these documents as largely intended for internal consumption in the Soviet Union. They said they would pass the Bill in the hope that a reported understanding on emigration with the Kremlin would be implemented.—Reuter.

Ethiopian students march before joining farm work

Addis Ababa, Dec 22.—Tens of thousands of students demonstrated throughout Addis Ababa yesterday in support of plans to turn Ethiopia into a socialist state.

The police estimated that between 40,000 and 50,000 people had taken part in the peaceful march, singing and waving banners proclaiming: "On with progress", and, "Help our rural brothers". Another 50,000 people cheered them on from the pavements.

The demonstrators were flanked by heavily armed police and army units, and military aircraft flew over the capital.

The demonstration was called to celebrate the beginnings of a "national work campaign" and in support of a Government plan announced on Friday to turn the country into a socialist state, with a one-party system, peoples communes and collective farms and Government control of vital industries.

According to plans by the ruling Military Council, 25,000 students, now named "pioneers", are to be sent to work on farms. They are to organize the communes and help to eradicate "alcohol, luxury, prostitution and illiteracy". Eventually, some 60,000 young people are to be drafted into this work.

"We want you to carry the torch of knowledge to the masses in the rural areas", Brigadier General Teferi Benti, the chairman of the Military Council, told the rally today.

Students had expressed fear that they would receive a hostile reception from the conservative peasants, but General Benti promised that "the armed forces will care for you: Ethiopian soldiers are at your side."

The authorities had expected trouble at today's rally but it went off without incident. Thousands of students facing the call-up to work in the countryside are reported to have fled their homes and to be in hiding.

The establishment of the "pioneers" and formation of the communes are part of the military government's plan to tackle the problem of land reform.

Until the army coup this year, the bulk of the land belonged to a small group of landowners and to the deposed Emperor Haile Selassie.

The military government decreed on Friday that it would play a dominant role in all big industries and that a body to be known as the Supreme Progressive Council would rule the country. It did not specify who would be appointed to the council, but presumably it will be dominated by the military.—UPI.

Why medical schools no longer turn out family doctors

The recruitment of doctors into general practice is still causing concern, according to the Chief Medical Officer at the Department of Health and Social Security, Dr Henry Yellowlees, in his recently published report.

Parents like me tend to feel a bit sceptical when we read pronouncements like this.

Why? Because we happen to have sons and daughters who want nothing more than to become GPs, and to remain in this country to practise their medicine.

The trouble is that so many of our sons and daughters are not being accepted by medical schools.

My son comes from a medical background. His father, grandfather, aunt and uncle are GPs. Ever since he became old enough to be able to formulate an ambition with regard to his future career he has kept a single goal in mind—to become a GP himself.

After an interview at a London teaching hospital when he was 17, he was conditionally accepted as a medical student. The condition was that he pass three science A levels with one B and two C grades.

Unfortunately, through ill-luck, lack of industry or sheer anxiety, his A-level results did not come up to scratch.

The following year, still not 19 years old, he tried them again, but only succeeded in attaining a B, a D and an E.

Not bad, you might think. Certainly quite good enough to get him university entrance for almost any other course except medicine. But medicine is now barred to him.

In theory, the minimum requirement for entry to a teaching hospital would be three A-levels, E grade passes, in science subjects.

But in practice the requirements for entry are becoming tougher and tougher. Last year 12,925 students applied for 3,365 medical school places in this country. So the medical schools can pick and choose.

The basis of their picking and choosing has become the ability to pass exams with high grades.

The trouble is that this method of selection inevitably leads to one predictable result. Graduates of the medical schools, selected primarily for their ability to pass exams, are naturally people of high intellect and superior examination technique.

They are usually strongly competitive by nature, too, for this is another characteristic which helps in examinations.

When they graduate their inclinations are to carry on to the challenge of yet more examinations, to continue competing.

They are therefore instinctively drawn to the specialities. Their aim is to become hospital consultants, if not in this country then elsewhere.

Perhaps the selection boards for medical schools should bear in mind that other qualities than good exam technique are necessary to make good doctors. Not least among these is a warm sympathetic interest in people and their individual problems which leads to what is now sadly becoming known as "the old family doctor relationship".

The family doctor relationship is disappearing because the type of student now being accepted in medical schools regards going into general practice as an admission of failure. Which makes for a lot of unhappy and frustrated people doing general practice.

And a lot of frustrated GPs doing other jobs. Can we really afford to turn down the young men and women who want to be general practitioners?

Maureen Vincent

Holly: a cautionary tale for Christmas

It seemed like a good idea at the time. We imagined the delight on the faces of our three daughters as they hurtled downstairs on Christmas morning to find a dear little puppy gazing soulfully at them from a brand new basket; but like most romantic visions, this one proved to have little connexion with reality.

The girls were delighted, of course, with their three-month-old Airedale. Their parents spent most of Christmas Day collecting little doggie's calling cards, rescuing various treasures from teeth as sharp as needles, and protecting visitors from playful attacks. Then there was the matter of the gateau that was meant to form the centrepiece of the festive tea table, but which the dog apparently thought was her supper: hardly a crumb remained.

Oh well, dogs will be dogs, said good-naturedly. But as Holly—we had named her in a rush of Yuletide enthusiasm worthy of Bob Cratchit—grew larger my temper grew shorter.

She was meant to sleep in the breakfast-room, but after one night the new wallpaper hung in tatters. I decided to confine her to the kitchen at night, which meant erecting a complicated barricade and caused the dog to howl for the first two hours. When she had grown tired of howling, she would indulge in a much more exciting pursuit—smashing plates.

There was a cushioned floor in the kitchen; you could drop the most delicate of cups without breaking it. Yet in the mornings we were confronted with demolished dinner plates. I deduced that the only way the dog could possibly accomplish this was by taking a plate in her mouth and hurling it against the wall.

On top of this, she was untrainable. I had grown up handling dogs, but Holly had a lunatic streak: she defied all efforts at house training, and appeared convinced that commands were directed not at her but at the nearest wall. I walloped and wooed her, cursed and cajoled, but it was no use. Pavlov would have had a nervous breakdown.

And she grew and she grew. The children were regularly flattened as she bounded around the house like a demented dinosaur. We lived in fear that one day she would not stop at the French windows, and prospective visitors were warned that there was likely to be a long delay between their ringing the bell and the door being opened. We had to tie down Holly first, otherwise our guests would have found themselves flat on their backs on the garden path with 25lb of bone, muscle and saliva sitting on their chests.

Holly should have been a perfect lady. Her pedigree was as long as your arm, and portraits of her great-great-grand-parents were displayed in the Airedale book we bought. Yet "going walkies" was like taking part in the chariot race in Ben Hur. A sharp tug on the leash produced instant acceleration and the only way of stopping her was to hook my arm around a lamp post or passer-by.

The list of her crimes is impressive: she tried to tunnel out of the kitchen; she redecorated the garden to a wasteland; she dug holes in furniture; she ate the mail and newspapers; she caused my grandmother to have fits.

After six months her fate was sealed by my front tooth, knocked out in an ill-timed burst of canine affection. I had to get a false tooth, Holly had to go. I advertised in the local paper and received but one reply—from a Miss Schubert (honestly, but no relation). Her dog had just died and she wanted a new companion. "Holly will certainly keep you entertained", I said.

When I met Miss Schubert I had second thoughts about letting Holly go to her. She stood barely five feet tall and had only one leg. "I don't think you could manage an Airedale", I said. "I can handle any dog", she said.

She had a large garden and a paddock. I decided expediency was the better part of valour. She offered me £1 for Holly. "That's all right", I said. "You keep it."

As I walked away there was a lump in my throat, but a new spring in my step. The following Christmas we bought the girls dolls.

David Sinclair

Ceylon bans paramilitary groups

From Our Correspondent
Colombo, Dec 22

The Ceylon Government last night enacted emergency regulations providing for the outlawing, and confiscation of assets, of political parties which indulge in paramilitary activities or challenge the validity of the constitution except in the National Assembly or courts of law.

The Trotskyite Lanka Sama Samaja Party has made no secret of the fact that it has organized "armies" at places of work. Last Wednesday, at the thirty-ninth anniversary session of the party, Mr Leslie Goonewardene, the general secretary, who is also Minister of Communications, said they should take a lesson from Chile and not allow a similar fate to befall the working class in Ceylon.

He added that to prevent similar events in Ceylon, it was necessary to form volunteer units to serve as an "appendage to the regular Army".

A statement issued from the Prime Minister's office last night stated that some groups may be motivated by fears of what reactionaries may intend, and may be determined to resist them; but the Government had the situation well under control. Any attempts to help the Government to maintain law and order would only complicate its tasks. The existence of paramilitary groups supporting the Government would only help organizations with sinister motives to exploit the situation.

Under the new regulations, no group of people except schoolchildren may conduct any exercise or marches without police permission. Other regulations enacted last night make it punishable for any party to deny, challenge or question the validity of the constitution.

The statement from the Prime Minister's office stated that people with political influence had made statements calculated to incite public and state officers to act in defiance of the laws of the land and violate the constitution.

"They have used the specious argument that the duly constituted Government of this country lacks legal and constitutional authority from and after May 19, 1975."

This was a reference to the demand by the opposition United National Party that the Government should go to the polls when it completes five years in office.

China is again disappointed by grain harvest

From David Bonavia
Peking, Dec 22

China has evidently reaped another rather disappointing grain harvest this year. An official report said today that the harvest had shown "a fairly big increase" over 1973, but such vocabulary is restrained by Chinese standards and suggests only a modest increase.

No absolute figure for the harvest has been given by officials since 1972, when it was put at 250 million tons of grain and sweet potatoes.

Last year it was said to have been somewhat higher, but it seems unlikely that this year's crop has brought the total up by more than one or two million tons.

Cricket

At last things go according to plan for MCC

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
Adelaide, Dec 22

One of many loads was lifted, at least temporarily, from Denness's mind here today when he made 88 not out against South Australia. With Amiss, Cowdrey and Edrich also getting some runs, and gaining in confidence accordingly.

It was a day, unlike most in the month of December, when things went according to plan for MCC. There have been two declarations in the match so far, Denness answering South Australia's of yesterday with one of his own this evening. Tomorrow, which is the last day, there will be a third, with Woodcock setting MCC a target.

There is little connection between playing Mallett and Jenner on this Adelaide pitch and Thomson and Lillee in Perth. To all intents and purposes they are two different games, one controlled by fast bowlers on a fastish pitch, the other by slow bowlers on a dead one. In his two tours to Australia Taylor rates this as the slowest pitch he has kept wicket on. Mallett goes further, saying that he has never bowled on a slower one.

This being so it is a pitch on which survival is not difficult, but fast scoring is. Except for Amiss, because he is so strong, MCC had to dig for their runs. Of an opening partnership of 103 with Cowdrey, Amiss's share was 73. Not often can MCC have had two broader beams opening together than these two. Amiss hit 10 fours, the other batsmen only 12 between them. This, encouragingly, was Amiss at his best, unbothered by the cracked thumb which kept him out of the second Test and which had been touched up in the field on Saturday.

With next Thursday's third Test match at Melbourne more likely to be played on a slow pitch than a fast one today was better practice for MCC than if we were heading west to Perth and something faster. Mallett and Jenner, who may both play in Melbourne, took two wickets between them for 132 runs. Mallett bowled Amiss, who was aiming a straight ball to midwicket, and had Cowdrey caught at the wicket off bat and pad, going for his paddle stroke to square leg.

Cowdrey was pretty tired by then. An avid consumer of cold drinks, he has been taking too many of them and suffering from stomach cramp. He would have found the outfield a lot slower than when he scored 307 here at Christmas, 1962, but he played pretty well, making gratifyingly few mistakes. Cowdrey was in for three hours 35 minutes, Amiss for two hours, Denness for three hours 20 minutes. Cowdrey was dropped once—at slip when he had made 11. Denness had two lives, at 13 and 78. The first a low hard return to Jenner, the second a difficult chance to long leg.

If Denness could have put the full tosses away he would have been well past his hundred when he declared. Instead, he kept hitting them straight to the fielders. He used his feet to drive the spinners and altogether played quite unlike someone who has been having a traumatic time of it. Denness has borne his setbacks in a way that will make all fairminded people pleased, not least in the ranks of Tuscany, should this be the start of better things.

Batting down the order, to protect his damaged hand from the new ball, Edrich had his life when he was 26. I could have detected less singlemindedness towards survival than is his wont, but I am not certain. With Denness and Edrich both having got something out of the match it is left now to Fletcher to do so tomorrow. Denness, I understand, is certain to play in Melbourne on Thursday. So are Amiss, Cowdrey and Greig, which leaves two to come from Fletcher, Edrich, Lloyd and Luckhurst. Luckhurst and Edrich could be the ones to be left out.

South Australia's ground fielding was good, especially in the covers to the slow bowling: their opening attack was mild, their weather was warm, their ground pleasing, their crowd small. Not many people go to cricket in Australia these days, other than to Test matches. Their batting, when they went in again with an hour to go, was untroubled by Old and Lever. Woodcock, who got a cap against New Zealand earlier this year, showed why. By close of play South Australia were 39 runs ahead with all their second innings wickets in hand.

Denness . . . played quite unlike someone who has been having a traumatic time of it.

Scorecard

SOUTH AUSTRALIA: First Innings

*A. Woodcock, c Fletcher, b Underwood 62
R. Drewer, run out 27
P. Sincock, c Taylor, b Underwood .. 40
G. Cosier, c Fletcher, b Underwood .. 73
J. Nash, c Hendrick, b Underwood .. 33
G. House, c Fletcher, b Underwood .. 5
T. Jenner, not out 11
A. Mallett, not out 2
Extras (b 3, l-b 3, n-b 9) .. 15

Total (6 wkts dec) 270

W. Prior, J. Barnes, †D. Vagmich did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—70, 2—123, 3—132, 4—235, 5—255, 6—260.

BOWLING: Lever, 8—1—35—0; Old 10—1—30—0; Hendrick, 11—0—45—0; Underwood, 21—5—53—5; Titmus, 14—2—50—0; Fletcher, 1—0—11—0.

Second Innings

A. Woodcock, not out 29
R. Drewer, not out 11
Extras (n-b 3) 3

Total (no wkt) 43

BOWLING (to date): Lever, 5—0—25—0; Old, 3—0—11—0; Underwood, 3—1—3—0; Titmus, 1—0—1—0.

MCC: First Innings

D. L. Amiss, b Mallett 73
M. C. Cowdrey, c Vagmich, b Mallett 78
*M. H. Denness, not out 88
J. H. Edrich, not out 31
Extras (b 1, l-b 1, w 3, n-b 2) .. 7

Total (2 wkts dec) 277

K. W. R. Fletcher, F. J. Titmus, C. M. Old, †R. W. Taylor, D. L. Underwood, M. J. Hendrick, P. Lever did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—100, 2—193.

BOWLING: Prior, 10—1—49—0; Barnes, 10—2—30—0; Jenner, 17—2—67—0; Cosier, 6—0—25—0; Mallett, 20—2—65—2; House, 9—1—25—0.

Nagpur, Dec 22.—Andrew Roberts and the off spin bowler Albert Padmore, ripped through the batting of India's Central Zone here today to give the West Indian cricketers the fourth victory of their tour.

The two bowlers needed only 16.5 overs and just under an hour to capture the seven remaining wickets.

SCORES: Central Zone, 254 (A. Padmore 6 for 89) and 85 (A. Roberts 4 for 20, Padmore 4 for 40); West Indians, 435 for eight dec.

Football

Significant win for West Bromwich

By Norman Fox

Was there not a professor who once proved that nine-tenths of a football match was controlled by luck and the other tenth by the skill of the players? If so, he would say there were no surprises in the first division on Saturday and there will be none on Boxing Day or next Saturday because there is nothing surprising about this season's championship. Unlike television at Christmas, when we can predict, with tradition and a copy of the *Radio Times* on our side, that the Magnificent Seven will be more popular than The Three Wise Kings, the football of the same period is obviously going to be totally unreliable.

None of the top seven clubs playing on Saturday managed to win. Luton Town and Carlisle United, already written off as relegation certainties, beat Derby County and Everton respectively. Leeds United, after the nice things that had been said of them in their revival, tested the humour of their supporters by losing 3—0 to Newcastle United who only last week lost to Chester in the League Cup. Chester could only draw 0—0 with the bottom club of the Football League, Workington, on Saturday, which is a clear indication that Leeds should be in the Northern Premier League—I think.

The one thing that everyone knew to be an unshakable truth about the season was that the best teams were reliable at home. Everton lost 3—2 to Carlisle at *Goodison Park* and Stoke City 2—0 to Arsenal at the Victoria Ground. Nearly everyone said Liverpool were not particularly special this season but good enough to keep the championship and thrash Birmingham City. Their 3—1 defeat at St Andrews should have been 4—1 but Clemence saved a penalty.

Fortunately, the contradictions ended in the second division where Manchester United's supporters were shepherded through the streets of York in almost cathedral peace to see their team win 1—0 and stay leaders.

Sunderland took a point at Oldham and Norwich City won 3—2 against Bristol City. But West Bromwich Albion's 2—0 defeat of Aston Villa was significant for they have a game in hand and are a threat to Norwich.

As the authorities are at last making positive steps to save us from the anarchy of the terrace hooligans, it seems appropriate for the players to curb their own belligerent activities. Much of the trouble comes from the trend to "con" referees by crying wolf. A player who "takes a dive" several times in a match can hardly expect to be taken seriously when he is really fouled, and the absurd antics of those who dispute referees' decisions are adolescent.

Saturday brought another day of rude football from Derby County, who are much too skilful to be involved in rough play, and, more embarrassingly, no one could have been happy about the behaviour of the current England captain, Hughes, who, before millions watching on television, disputed a just penalty decision simply because he was unwise enough to stand and appeal for offside at a crucial moment. Football does not pretend that foul play does not happen, but there is no need to draw attention to misdemeanour.

Coming out of the wash without a whitener

By Norman Fox

Playing in the gusty pale hot grass beneath their high-rise new grandstand, Chelsea usually look as if they are about to be chased off by the caretaker. But against West Ham United on Saturday, they gave the impression of having at last seen the "keep off the grass" notices removed. They scampered about in comparative freedom, wearily ending the day with a point from a 1—1 draw with the rival gang from across town, West Ham United, and one suspected that all went home bruised and bloodied and saying: "But you ought to see what they look like."

It was not a dirty game, neither was it clean. It came out like linen washed in powder not containing the magic whitener. Of the two, Chelsea emerged as the less grubby and certainly the more satisfied team. They had not played as well at home all season and as West Ham lost their toughest competitor, Bonds, before half time with some old war wound inflicted the previous week, they should have won without too much difficulty. West Ham were pale and inefficient. Jennings, admittedly, missed the match and Brooking missed Jennings. The whole team moved without singlemindedness.

Chelsea seem about a fifth of the way up the long ladder of recovery. Kember is thriving—almost the player he was at Crystal Palace but has rarely been at Chelsea; Cooke is rejuvenated—twice the player he was at Crystal Palace and nearly as good as he was at Chelsea originally; Hutchinson has also almost recovered his old confidence and powerful attacking, and Garland does some instinctively clever things in tight formation with Hutchinson and Cooke.

The two players who on Saturday made them all work together were Wilkins, a tough little character who forfeited his chance of being the game's outstanding player with one brave tackle that left him limping for the rest of the afternoon, and Hay, who after several months adjusting to southern life—be that better or worse, I am none too sure—here seemed excellently right for the job at hand. His interceptions and well-timed tackles won Chelsea so much possession that West Ham wasted minutes on end chasing Cooke around some imaginary mulberry bush.

Chelsea spent over an hour chipping at the pedestal of confidence on which West Ham had placed themselves in recent weeks. Eventually, came the fall when neither the Hammerers nor the Hammers expected—Garland centred, Lock took a haymaking swing at the ball and sliced it towards the underside of the crossbar. Day made a wonderful save but the ball hit the bar and Hutchinson followed up to score.

The substitution of Best for Bonds was, one would have thought, no straight exchange of similar styles. But Best proved not the gentle ball player of the past. His intention seemed to be to bludgeon Chelsea into submission and, being a man of polite nature, he must have been under orders or determined to show that he could be as aggressive as any other member of this new, hardened West Ham team.

Either way, Best failed ingloriously and when West Ham came to grips with the game in the last 20 minutes, it was Gould and Robson who did the leading. Chelsea helped by presenting Gould with the equalizing goal. Their defence rushed out to leave West Ham forwards offside, but Hutchinson, back in his own penalty area where he could do least for his team, stayed where he was and placed Gould on-side. Gould turned on the ball and scored with the assurance of his years.

CHELSEA: J. Phillips; G. Locke, R. Harris, J. Hollins, M. Droy, D. Hay, S. Kember (sub, J. Dempsey), R. Wilkins, C. Garland, I. Hutchinson, C. Cooke.

WEST HAM UNITED: M. Day; K. Coleman, F. Lampard, W. Bonds (sub, C. Best), T. Taylor, K. Lock, J. McDowell, G. Paddon, R. Gould, T. Brooking, K. Robson.

Referee: R. Perkin (Stafford).

Apprehension as Stoke City go down on their luck

By Tom Freeman

Stoke City, having had their hopes of winning the first division championship dealt a severe blow on Saturday by Arsenal, must still be wondering how they managed to lose 2—0. It was Stoke's first home loss since December, 1973, and coming after last week's defeat at Leeds, must raise some apprehension as to their ability to make up the lost ground.

Yet Stoke will never have worse luck than they had on Saturday. They were surprised by two first half goals from Kidd but still attacked with great vigour up to the final whistle, forcing numerous corners and producing some fine scoring efforts, particularly from Hurst and Hudson. Somehow, an Arsenal foot or an Arsenal head always barred the way. Mancini's look of disbelief when his body diverted a terrific shot from Hurst was understandable, though by then, it had almost become the regular pattern.

Kidd's first goal, after five minutes, was well taken. Stoke's big centre half, Smith, made a mess of a headed clearance, the ball going behind him into the path of Kidd, whose first shot hit Shilton in the chest. Kidd was sufficiently persistent, however, to hang on to the rebound and place the ball out of Shilton's reach.

The second goal was more of a gift. A high, swinging cross from Ball landed almost on the toe of the unmarked Kidd, who could scarcely hide his surprise and delight as he volleyed it into the net.

In the period between these two goals Arsenal had defended, sometimes too desperately, as was shown in the quality of their tackles. Once they were 2—0 up, they showed much more confidence and discipline, and there was more authority about their play, even though they were still confined to their own half.

Ian Moores, the tall, 20-year-old local boy, and surprise choice for England's Under-23 party a few days earlier, was so disappointing as Stoke's No 9 in the first half that he was replaced after the break by the long serving Skeels. This meant remodelling the side to allow Smith to take on an attacking role.

In the circumstances it was a sensible move, even if it brought no reward. Stoke obviously missed Greenhoff though it is doubtful, with the luck obviously not on their side, whether even he would have made any difference on such a day.

The question for Stoke now is whether two defeats in a row has affected their morale. It is to be hoped not, for they are obviously a skilful, well balanced side, capable of beating any team in England.

The two points could not have come at a better time for Arsenal—a Christmas present four days early.

STOKE CITY: P. Shilton; [illegible] Marsh, M. Pejic, J. Mahoney, D. Smith, A. Dodd, J. Robertson, G. Hurst, I. Moores (sub, E. Skeels), A. Hudson, G. Salmons.

ARSENAL: J. Rimmer; P. Rice, R. McNab, E. Kelly, P. Simpson, T. Mancini, P. Storey, A. Ball, J. Radford, B. Kidd, A. Cropley.

Referee: K. Styles (Barnsley).

Better to put your money on Carlisle than Everton

By Tom German

Credentials as aspiring champions which seemed above suspicion after 15 league matches without setback certainly looked a little crumpled [illegible] down at home for the first time. Indeed, it was only their second defeat with the season half over, but a speculator making an instant judgment would have thought Carlisle United, 3—2 winners at Goodison Park on Saturday, a much better investment to avoid relegation than Everton to claim the title.

It was not a day when Everton showed their most animated profile. They missed Dobson's direction and were perhaps lulled by goals in each half which seemed to deposit the match in their palm. Latchford took them both smartly, the first hit cleanly away after Connolly's header had struck a post, the second met on the half volley as Connolly's cross from the right came looping in.

Both goals followed corner kicks, the only situation in which Carlisle repeatedly looked ill at ease. For the rest, Clements apart, it was difficult to locate an Everton player—who consistently showed drive and enterprise. Carlisle had a cluster of them and therein lay the way to reward.

Carlisle were distinctly more mobile in the middle areas, where Train and O'Neill so often influenced events; nor should Balderstone's role be disguised by that apparently unhurried stride. He is a thoughtful player who tries to make good use of the ball, as when he laid the chance for the winner precisely on to O'Neill's head after shrewdly nursing the ball out on the right until O'Neill was running into position.

Sensible support on the flanks by Carr and Gorman and the perky alertness of Laidlaw were unmistakable marks of Carlisle's recognition that survival in the first division lies in sustained collective effort and understanding, rather than on the resources of any individual. It was Laidlaw who reopened the match after Everton had seemed to secure the door by taking a two-goal lead. Twice in three minutes he found a chasm in the middle of Everton's defence; Balderstone and Carr pointed the way for his first goal and Laidlaw himself was backing up quickly when Clarke chased a pass which exposed Everton's central corridor once again. The ball bounced off Jones's chest and Laidlaw flung himself down at the edge of the 18-yard area.

The surprise was that a side with Everton's record for holding fast to what they have laid hands on should allow the match to slip away. They busied themselves in the last 25 minutes after Carlisle's third goal; Ross clutched the ball on the line in a couple of moments of disarray, but Green's reach with his head dispersed most of Everton's attempts to advance by use of the high ball. It was no foible of fortune which gave Carlisle their first success outside Cumbria since early in the season, and McIlmoyle could have underlined that truth when he strode through Everton's vulnerable middle just before the end; instead he shot into Davies's grateful grasp.

EVERTON: D. Davies; M. Bernard, S. Seargeant, D. Clements, R. Kenyon, J. Hurst, G. Jones, C. Telfer (sub, M. Buckley), M. Lyons, R. Latchford, J. Connolly.

CARLISLE UNITED: A. Ross; P. Carr, J. Gorman, L. O'Neill, W. Green, R. Parker, D. Martin, R. Train, F. Clarke (sub, H. McIlmoyle), J. Laidlaw, C. Balderstone.

Referee: I. P. Jones (Treharris).

Bowles helps advertise the positive approach

By Norman de Mesquita

Some recent visitors to White Hart Lane have been criticized for their negative approach and the Tottenham Hotspur faithfuls have had one or two dreary games to watch. No such criticism can be levelled at Queen's Park Rangers, who do not have it in their make-up to be defensively minded. Their 2—1 win on Saturday was a good advertisement for their positive approach, and in the first half, when Rangers built up a two goal lead, Tottenham rarely looked like making any sort of game of it.

The two goals were scored by the enigmatic Stanley Bowles in the first 18 minutes of his come-back after coming off the transfer list yet again. The first crowned a fine Rangers move which saw Clement and Beck work a thrilling one-two on the right, before Thomas headed down Clement's cross and Bowles volleyed home. That was after only five minutes and 13 minutes later, Bowles made it two from the penalty spot, England having held Givens as he raced clear.

Tottenham came more into the game in the second half with a gale-force wind behind them. Neighbour substituted for the injured Beal and added more whip to their attack. But with Chivers and Peters both ineffective, there was no bite to their finishing, and their one goal came when a long throw by Chivers fell to Duncan, who was allowed two attempts to score.

Both sides came close during the latter stages and perhaps Tottenham will consider themselves unlucky because only fine goalkeeping by Parkes kept Rangers ahead on several occasions. But Thomas, Givens and Bowles were always dangerous on the break and might well have increased the winning margin.

Rangers were, in fact, the more cultured team, and a forlorn supporter summed up the difference between the sides when, during a stoppage in play midway through the first half, he asked: "Where, oh, where has the style gone, Spurs?"

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR: P. Jennings; P. Beal (sub, J. Neighbour), C. Knowles, J. Pratt, M. England, T. Naylor, R. Coates, S. Perryman, M. Chivers, M. Peters, J. Duncan.

QUEEN'S PARK RANGERS: P. Parkes; D. Clement, I. Gillard, D. Masson, F. McLintock, D. Webb, D. Thomas, J. Beck, M. Leach, S. Bowles, D. Givens.

Referee: M. Lowe (Yorkshire).

Today's fixture

Third division

Southend v Aldershot (7.30)

Rugby Union

An unreal way to boost confidence

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

Eleven tries—eight of them by the senior side—and a grand total of 60 points is not what England may expect in their first international in Dublin next month. If the proceedings in the final trial at Twickenham on Saturday seemed unreal, we should be thankful for considerable mercies.

England beat the Rest 38-22 and in so doing were enabled to play the sort of relaxed and expansive football that should help to boost confidence all round. They still, however, managed only three tries to two in a period of sustained pressure in the second half. De-

Further withdrawals on the eve of the game involved, most crucially, the absence from the England pack of Stevens, with a back strain, and of Ralston, still troubled by a knee. White was promoted to loose head in the senior side and there played strongly in all loose phases. He appeared to scrummage staunchly, too, but could not prevent Wheeler from yielding four strikes against the head to Pullin.

The Rest loose head, Cowling, fared much better against Cotton than he had done at Headingley, and the deposed England hooker, now flanked by both his old Gloucestershire colleagues, thus made his case for recall. If Stevens is unfit, and if the selectors are reluctant to put in White as a new cap against Ireland, they have the option of switching Cotton to loose head and restoring Burton on the other side. Cotton was in resplendent, all round fettle in the second half.

It would not be surprising if England's back five forwards, assuming their fitness, were the same in Dublin as at the end of last season, with Dixon, who was unable to play here as the Rest No 8, on a flank. Two of the Rest forwards, Mantell at No 8 and Cheeseman at flanker, were playing out of position on Saturday—a state of affairs spectacularly exploited by Webster and Ripley, whose acceleration over the first vital yards was complementary and profitable.

Webster made two of Ripley's three tries with snipe-like breaks, and a drive by Hendy, whose game is maturing well, set him up for the other. Ripley made a try for Squires, distributed mostly with accuracy, and in all ways rarely had it so good.

Only Wales amongst the home countries can rival England for strength in depth on the wing. Squires, with devastating acceler[illegible] Opening had a magnificent game in attack. He got three tries, too, the last of them an absolute gem. Duckham made, with Horton's support, a try for Old, but, as all ran on the day, Alan Richards and Morley shared second ranking, at least in attack.

A perfect infusion by Richards from the blind side wing created the opening through which Warfield, putting his ears back, propelled his burly frame for his second try and the most exciting score of the day. The strength and speed of his finishing brooked no argument and, in attack and defence, he made a potent challenge for a return to national ranks.

Preece and Keith Smith (who got a try), both looked a little rusty, Preece making a few uncharacteristic errors of judgment.

Maxwell, as he had done at Headingley, effected one rugged break before he limped off, to be replaced by Britten.

Geoffrey Richards at full back supplied strong, decisive support in attack but had few chances to prove his all round mettle. It was Hare, a late replacement for the Rest, who was able to catch the eye more often with a dashing performance marred only by one of those needless errors in defence to which his zeal for running makes him prone.

By coming in to the line, after Mantell had set up a ruck, directly from a kick off, Hare made the last try, for Alan Richards, and he kicked two penalty goals and two conversions with great aplomb.

Old improved three of the England tries and whatever the statistics may suggest (Geoffrey Richards missed a couple of conversions, one of them horribly) looked in good order again as a goal kicker. Altogether, the England stand off enjoyed a more relaxed and authoritative match. It was good to see him [illegible] not too much and his distribution might sometimes have been a little swifter.

Stephen Smith's service was in admirable working order, but Bennett, with less ball than Old, did not enhance his claim. The selectors will be sorry that Wordsworth, whose ankle injury seems to have left him out of contention, missed a chance of pressing his own.

Beaumont had another solid game at lock for the Rest, and Wilkinson played as well as I have seen him this season. Rollitt, though he made a few mistakes, clearly is still a force to be reckoned with. No one worked harder.

The England party for a training party on January 4 and 5 will be announced today.

ENGLAND XV: G. Richards (Wasps); P. J. Squires (Harrogate), K. Smith (Roundhay), P. S. Preece (Coventry), D. J. Duckham (Coventry); A. G. B. Old (Middlesbrough), J. G. Webster (Moseley); C. White (Gosforth), P. Wheeler (Leicester), F. E. Cotton (Coventry), R. M. Uttley (Gosforth), N. E. Horton (Moseley), J. A. Watkins (Gloucester), A. G. Ripley (Rosslyn Park), P. Hendy (St Ives).

THE REST: W. H. Hare (Nottingham); A. A. Richards (Fylde), A. Maxwell (New Brighton), P. J. Warfield (Cambridge University), A. J. Morley (Bristol); W. N. Bennett (Bedford), S. Smith (Sale); R. Cowling (Leicester), J. V. Pullin (Bristol), M. A. Burton (Gloucester), W. Beaumont (Fylde), R. M. Wilkinson (Bedford), D. M. Rollitt (Bristol), N. Mantell (Rosslyn Park), T. Cheeseman (Cardiff CE).

Referee: K. Pattinson (North Midlands).

London Welsh given what they used to give

By Michael Hardy

London Welsh against Cardiff. This game, at Old Deer Park on Saturday, was the "big one", as the lottery hopefuls say in Spain around this time of the year. And it lived up to its name. If London Welsh had to bow to a stronger Cardiff side, at least they scored first, they made a stirring game of it, and they gave us a suitably exciting finish.

Cardiff won by a goal [illegible] and a try (10). They deserved to do so, if only because they scored three tries to their opponents' one. But there was more to it than that. Except at full back—and even there John Davies saved them in the dying, darkening moments of the game—they were superior in all departments.

It is sad to reflect that midway through the second half, when their backs really got going, Cardiff were handing out to London Welsh the sort of constantly-switching attack that the Old Deer Park regulars used to see, and still hope for, from their own team. Gerald Davies, returning to his old ground, dropped a vital pass with the line open, but it was only moments before McCann went over for the try that seemed inevitable.

Significantly, the two Cardiff flankers, Lane and John, inspired this try. For it was at the back of the pack that Cardiff's drive began. Smith, the No 8, was equally prominent in the loose and, with the aid of Robinson, in the lineouts too. Indeed, it was from a lineout won by Smith that McCann's try came, as had one of Finlayson's two tries in the first half. The other try this powerful centre scored followed a run and inside pass by Gerald Davies. James converted one try.

Against such strong forwards, whose concerted shove often had the London Welsh pack retreating, Baker did well to keep his strike. Supporting him, somewhat uncomfortably, in the front row were Oxford and Cambridge Blues in Davies and Young. Evans was still missing through injury, but Roberts, captain in his absence, won an early, and popular, success for his club by scoring a try when John Williams came typically into the line.

Jenkins kicked two penalty goals. The second, after a crooked feed by Edwards, brought London Welsh within striking distance of a win. In the gathering gloom, an opportunist kick, and a chase by Hughes, brought the crowd to their feet, but the Cardiff full back was equal to the situation. Few would deny that justice was done.

LONDON WELSH: J. P. R. Williams; A. Richards, K. Hughes, A. Jenkins, J. Shanklin; G. Davies, E. W. Williams; S. J. T. Davies, A. P. Baker, S. Young, C. Howecroft, M. G. Roberts, J. Taylor, J. Vaughan, J. Manfield.

CARDIFF: J. Davies; T. G. R. Davies, P. Evans, A. Finlayson, S. McCann; K. James, G. O. Edwards; G. Wallace, G. Davies, B. Nelmes, I. Robinson, P. Kallonas, S. Lane, C. Smith, M. John.

Referee: H. Stone (London).

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: England 38, The Rest 22.

CLUB MATCHES: Birmingham 10, Penarth 4; Birkenhead Park 7, London Scottish 30; Blackburn 11, Southport 3; Bristol 15, Leicester 10; Broughton Park 16, Halifax 4; Chester 17, Birkonian 0; Clifton 7, Tredegar 4; Edinburgh Wanderers 7, Jedforest 8; Esher 50, Guy's Hospital 16; Gala 20, Langholm 6; Glamorgan Wanderers 16, Exeter 16; Gloucester 12, Coventry 3; Gosforth 16, Notts 16; Harlequins 18, Newport 6; Harrogate 5, Hartlepool Rovers 3; Hull and East Riding 5, Roundhay 12; Jordanhill 12, Glasgow Academicals 3; Keighley 10, Old Thornensians 13; Liverpool 25, Manchester 12; Llanelli 30, Bath 0; London Irish 37, Oxford 13; London Welsh 10, Cardiff 14; Lydney 9, Weston-super-Mare 0; Maesteg 13, Aberavon 20; Metropolitan Police 19, Morley 0; Moseley 29, Bedford 16; Newbridge 6, Swansea 10; Northampton 0, Wasps 20; Northern 21, Melrose 7; Nottingham 16, Gosforth 16; Nuneaton 8, New Brighton 37; Oldham 4, Wigan 16; OMT's 0, US Portsmouth 14; Old Instonians 20, Hightown 0; Orrell 22, Wakefield 10; Otley 3, Huddersfield 12; Penryn 12, Redruth 10; Pontypool 8, Cross Keys 9; Preston Grasshoppers 4, Stafford 20; Richmond 14, Blackheath 6; Rosslyn Park 36, Cheltenham 4; Sale 3, Headingley 23; Saracens 18, Abertillery 10; Sheffield 3, Wilmslow 20; Somerset Police 11, Bridgwater and Albion 9; Streatham/Croydon 22, Sidcup 6; Stroud 8, London Hospital 4; Taunton 15, Plymouth Albion 26; Torquay Athletic 3, Barnstaple 7; Vale of Lune 16, Fylde 24; Waterloo 19, Bradford 13.

KNOCKOUT CUP: Neath 9, South Wales Police 0.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: 19 - group: Hertfordshire 12, Oxfordshire 13.

OTHER MATCHES: Lawrence Sheriff 3, Gravesend 13; Tiffin 4, Hampton GS 3.

Surprises in teams for final Irish trial

The poor performance by Ireland against the All Blacks last month is reflected in the team's selected for the final trial in a fortnight's time at Landsdowne Road and only seven of the side that played against the All Blacks are included in the Probables team. Perhaps the biggest surprise is that the former British Lion, Sean Lynch, is unable to get into the trial while Parfrey, who also played against New Zealand, is also omitted.

Three players who were in the Lions team in South Africa, scrum half Moloney, hooker Kennedy and flank forward McKinney, are all demoted to the Possibles. These three, together with the No 8, Moore, stand-off half Quinn and centre Crowe were all in the Irish side that lost to New Zealand.

The selectors have recalled McCombe, whose only appearance for Ireland was against France in 1968. His form in the interprovincial series has earned recognition over Quinn, while Canniffe, reserve scrum half in recent seasons, gets preference over Moloney.

The left wing berth in the senior side goes to uncapped McLennan (Wanderers) with former international Grant, who last played for Ireland in 1971, getting the left wing berth on the Possibles team.

Ray McLoughlin is joined in the front row by his brother, who plays all his rugby for the English club, Northern. Gibson, out of action for three months with a tendon injury, is fully recovered and is in the Probables side, where he is partnered in the centre by Milliken. Duggan, the Blackrock No 8, is preferred to the established Moore in the Probables side.

Teams:

WHITES (Probables): A. Ensor (Wanderers); T. Grace (St Mary's), M. Gibson (NIFC), R. Milliken (Bangor), F. McLennan (Wanderers); W. McCombe (Bangor), D. Canniffe (Lansdowne); R. McLoughlin (Blackrock), P. C. Whelan (Garryowen), F. M. McLoughlin (Northern), W. McBride (Ballymena, capt), M. Keane (Lansdowne), S. Deering (Garryowen), W. Duggan (Blackrock), F. Slattery (Blackrock).

BLUES (Possibles): L. Moloney (Garryowen); S. Blake Knox (NIFC), S. Dennison (Garryowen), J. Crowe (UCD), E. Grant (CIYMS); M. Quinn (Lansdowne), J. Moloney (London Irish); O. C. Waldron (Clontarf), K. W. Kennedy (London Irish), R. Clegg (Bangor), M. Molloy (London Irish, capt), R. Hakin (CIYMS), A. McLean (Ballymena), T. Moore (Highfield), S. McKinney (Dungannon).

Acting captain in a general's role

By Peter Marson

Newport, having advanced upon Twickenham at the Stoop Memorial Ground on Saturday, fortified by an imposing and unblemished record over their last dozen games, stumbled and fell before a wily and well-armed adversary in Harlequins. There were a number of factors that, combined, made this notable success by five penalty goals and a dropped goal (18 points) to a goal (6 pts) less surprising than it might seem.

A clue to the first is written in the score line, and is obvious enough. Newport made mistakes to be sure, a whole chapter and more besides the many that were to provide ammunition for the howitzer that was Bushell. Secondly, it had been an astute plan by Bushell, the general who, as captain for the day, had won the toss and pencilled in Harlequins' path to victory by deciding to face an enemy much assisted by a strong, blustery wind at his back. That had been a brave decision.

Finally, providing Harlequins could unseat an exuberant foe strong, powerful and skilful forward, and speedy, potent and assertive behind, then in Bushell an efferverscent study in confidence and skill, and Hiller, his lieutenant, recalled to active service, Harlequins had the tools to finish the job.

Hiller's services have been long and distinguished, and now an adept performance at stand-off half could be traced to his considerable experience. His coolness under pressure had the necessary therapeutic effect and brought succour to his side.

In the second half when Newport's lead of six points dwindled and disappeared, Hiller's huge kicks down wind gained great slabs of territory.

Newport had begun promisingly and after a quarter of an hour a defensive lapse brought a simple try and conversion at the post by Lease and Hazzard. That early promise, though, eroded as Newport broke the laws and bungled their chances. Despondency replaced a blithe optimism. Enter Harlequins' champions, Bushell and Hiller. Bushell, to land five penalty goals from short and long range—the last to rub in the salt, from the halfway line—and Hiller to adroitly drop for goal from 20 yards when he was surrounded and his kick apparently masked by the enemy.

HARLEQUINS: K. M. Bushell; R. Hammond, P. J. Grant, D. A. Cooke, G. E. Wood; R. Hiller, I. M. Burrell; T. Claxton, J. Stockdill, M. F. Claxton, C. Barrett, P. J. Whiting, J. Leggu, J. H. W. Kirkby, S. R. R. Edmann.

NEWPORT: J. Hazzard; K. Davies, N. Edwards, D. Burcher, S. Willis; C. Jenkins, A. Evans; J. Dale, D. Ford, R. Morgan, L. Jones, J. Watkins, B. Lease, J. Jeffery, D. Haines.

Referee: M. N. Sansom (London Society).

Andy Hill, the Llanelli right wing, celebrated his 300th appearance for his club on Saturday in a very fitting manner by scoring a hat-trick of tries. There were seven altogether, but only one of them converted, as Bath were run into the ground, 30—0.

Great strength up front kept Llanelli in command in the first half and there was some superb handling by the three-quarters afterwards. Even the loss of Bernard Thomas at centre could not stop Llanelli surging forward. He was off all the second half.

The boot of Malcolm Phillips enabled Saracens to preserve their unbeaten home record. He sent six penalty kicks sailing between the posts to make up all his team's points.

Weekend results and tables

First division

Birmingham	3	Liverpool	1
Burnley	1	Middlesbrough	1
Chelsea	1	West Ham	1
Everton	2	Carlisle	3
Luton	1	Derby	0
Manchester City	0	Wolves	0
Newcastle	3	Leeds	0
Stoke	0	Arsenal	2
Tottenham	1	Queen's Park	2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ipswich Town	23	13	3	8	35	18	29
Everton	22	8	12	2	[illegible]	[illegible]	28
Manchester C	23	11	6	6	29	27	28
Liverpool	22	11	5	6	30	19	27
West Ham Utd	23	10	7	6	40	30	27
Middlesbrough	23	10	7	6	33	27	27
Stoke City	23	10	7	6	37	30	27
Burnley	23	10	5	8	41	37	25
Newcastle Utd	22	9	6	7	31	30	24
Derby County	22	9	6	7	31	31	24
Wolverhampton	23	7	9	7	28	27	23
Sheffield Utd	22	8	6	8	30	34	22
Leeds Utd	22	8	4	10	31	[illegible]	20
Birmingham C	23	9	3	11	34	35	21
QP Rangers	23	8	5	10	25	31	21
Coventry City	23	6	8	9	30	40	20
Arsenal	22	7	5	10	26	27	19
Tottenham	23	7	5	11	28	35	19
Chelsea	22	5	[illegible]	8	[illegible]	37	[illegible]
Carlisle Unt	23	7	3	13	[illegible]	29	17
Leicester City	22	5	6	11	20	31	16
Luton Town	22	2	7	13	18	35	11

Second division

Bolton	3	Oxford Utd	1
Bristol Rvrs	0	Portsmouth	1
Cardiff	0	Notts Co	0
Millwall	2	Sheffield Wed	1
Norwich	3	Bristol City	2
Notm Forest	0	Blackpool	0
Oldham	0	Sunderland	0
Orient	0	Hull City	0
Southampton	0	Fulham	0
West Bromwich	2	Aston Villa	0
York City	0	Manchester U	1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Manchester U	23	15	5	3	39	17	35
Sunderland	22	12	6	4	38	16	30
Norwich City	22	10	8	4	31	19	28
West Bromwich	23	10	7	6	27	16	27
Hull City	23	8	9	6	27	36	25
Oxford Utd	23	10	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	25
Aston Villa	22	9	[illegible]	7	33	18	24
Bristol City	22	9	[illegible]	7	20	15	24
Blackpool	23	8	[illegible]	7	23	18	24
Notts County	[illegible]	7	[illegible]	7	29	32	[illegible]
Fulham	[illegible]	7	[illegible]	8	24	19	[illegible]
Bristol Rovers	[illegible]	8	6	9	24	29	[illegible]
Nottm Forest	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	9	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bolton Wdr	[illegible]	8	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Orient	22	4	13	6	15	23	20
Southampton	21	6	7	8	27	30	19
York City	[illegible]	7	[illegible]	8	26	33	19
Portsmouth	[illegible]	5	8	10	18	30	18
Oldham Ath	21	5	7	9	20	27	17
Cardiff City	[illegible]	5	7	10	21	31	17
Sheffield W	[illegible]	4	8	11	26	36	16
Millwall	[illegible]	5	6	11	20	32	16

Third division

Brighton	2	Plymouth	2
Gillingham	4	Chesterfield	0
Grimsby	1	Charlton	1
Halifax	3	Bournemouth	3
Hereford	0	Blackburn	3
Huddersfield	2	Walsall	2
Preston	1	Port Vale	0
Swindon	0	Peterborough	0
Tranmere	0	Bury	1
Wrexham	5	Watford	0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Blackburn	22	11	6	5	30	25	28
Crystal Palace	[illegible]	11	5	6	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Swindon Town	[illegible]	10	7	6	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Peterborough	[illegible]	11	5	6	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Colchester Utd	[illegible]	[illegible]	8	6	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Preston	[illegible]	11	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Port Vale	[illegible]	[illegible]	8	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Charlton Ath	[illegible]	11	[illegible]	7	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Plymouth A	[illegible]	11	4	7	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Hereford U	[illegible]	10	5	8	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Wrexham	[illegible]	8	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Southend U	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Watford	[illegible]	6	10	7	30	33	[illegible]
Walsall	[illegible]	7	6	[illegible]	30	[illegible]	20
Gillingham	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bury	[illegible]	7	6	10	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Halifax Town	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	20
Grimsby Town	[illegible]	8	[illegible]	11	30	41	19
Huddersfield	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	11	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bournemouth	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Brighton	[illegible]	6	5	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Tranmere R	21	6	4	11	[illegible]	[illegible]	16
Chesterfield	[illegible]	4	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	16
Aldershot	21	6	4	11	21	30	16

Fourth division

Barnsley	5	Northampton	1
Bradford	1	Southport	2
Brentford	2	Scunthorpe	0
Darlington	1	Crewe	0
Doncaster	0	Cambridge	1
Hartlepool	5	Rochdale	0
Mansfield	1	Rotherham	1
Reading	1	Swansea	2
Shrewsbury	2	Exeter	2
Torquay	0	Newport	1
Workington	0	Chester	0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Mansfield T	[illegible]	16	5	2	49	21	37
Shrewsbury	[illegible]	14	5	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Lincoln City	[illegible]	11	6	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Rotherham	[illegible]	10	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Chester	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Newport Cnty	[illegible]	13	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bradford	[illegible]	11	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Southport	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Northampton	[illegible]	10	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Exeter City	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Reading	[illegible]	10	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Torquay U	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	10	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Brentford	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Hartlepool	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Cambridge U	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Rochdale	[illegible]	[illegible]	8	8	26	30	20
Swansea City	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	13	[illegible]	[illegible]	20
Barnsley	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	12	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Darlington	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	17	31	[illegible]	19
Crewe Alex	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Stockport Co	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	11	[illegible]	41	[illegible]
Doncaster R	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Scunthorpe U	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	12	18	[illegible]	[illegible]
Workington	[illegible]	[illegible]	4	15	15	38	[illegible]

Scottish first division

Aberdeen	1	Dunfermline	1
Airdrie	4	Rangers	3
Arbroath	0	Hibernian	2
Ayr	1	Morton	1
Celtic	3	St Johnstone	1
Dumbarton	0	Motherwell	1
Dundee Utd	3	Kilmarnock	4
Hearts	0	Dundee	0
Partick	2	Clyde	2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Celtic	17	14	2	1	49	15	30
Rangers	17	13	2	2	47	18	28
Hibernian	17	11	4	2	34	15	26
Dundee Utd	17	8	5	4	35	22	21
Aberdeen	17	7	4	6	30	21	18
Dundee	17	6	4	7	17	19	16
Ayr United	16	6	4	6	23	34	16
Airdrieonians	17	6	4	7	25	28	16
Dunfermline	16	4	7	5	25	29	15
Hearts	17	4	7	6	25	28	15
Kilmarnock	16	4	7	5	27	38	15
St Johnstone	17	5	4	8	19	25	14
Motherwell	17	6	2	9	21	31	14
Clyde	17	[illegible]	[illegible]	7	21	31	13
Partick Thistle	17	5	3	9	26	38	13
Arbroath	17	[illegible]	[illegible]	10	13	28	11
Morton	17	3	5	9	17	37	11
Dumbarton	16	3	4	9	20	26	10

Scottish second division

Alloa	3	Forfar	1
Queen's Pk	1	Berwick	2
Cowdenbeath	1	Stenhsmuir	3
East Fife	4	Stranraer	1
Falkirk	0	Clydebank	1
Hamilton	[illegible]	Brechin	1
Meadowbank	[illegible]	Stirling Albion	1
Montrose	0	Albion	1
Queen of South	1	Raith	1
St Mirren	2	E Stirling	0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
East Fife	20	13	4	3	36	16	30
Montrose	20	13	2	5	34	20	28
Queen of South	20	11	4	5	38	16	26
Hamilton Acad	18	10	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	17	24
Berwick Rangers	20	12	0	8	[illegible]	25	24
Stirling Albion	20	10	4	6	38	21	24
East Stirling	20	10	4	6	28	31	24
Falkirk	18	11	0	7	32	17	22
Stenhousemuir	20	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Clydebank	21	8	6	7	26	27	22
St Mirren	20	8	5	7	37	30	21
Raith Rovers	19	7	5	7	25	21	19
Alloa Athletic	21	[illegible]	[illegible]	8	29	28	19
Stranraer	21	6	7	8	[illegible]	[illegible]	19
Albion Rovers	19	6	4	9	[illegible]	[illegible]	16
Brechin City	20	5	4	11	30	24	14
Queen's Park	20	3	6	11	17	33	12
Cowdenbeath	20	2	8	10	21	41	12
Meadowbank	19	5	1	13	19	53	11
Forfar Athletic	20	1	5	14	21	53	7

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Altrincham v Gainsborough postponed; Bangor City v Buxton postponed; Boston 1, Mossley 1; Fleetwood 0, Stafford Rangers 0; Goole 1, Macclesfield 2; Matlock 4, Barrow 0; Morecambe 1, Scarborough 1; Northwich Victoria 3, Lancaster 0; Wigan Athletic 3, Gateshead United 0; Worksop 1, Great Harwood 0.

ARTHURIAN LEAGUE: Old Cholmeleians 4, Old Aldenhamians 1; Old Malvernians 2, Old Bradfieldians 2; Old Wykehamists 3, Old Brentwoods 2.

ATHENIAN LEAGUE: First division: Edmonton-Haringey 0, Leyton 0; Lewes 4, Alton Town 0; Rainham Town 1, Grays Athletic 2; Redhill 3, Cheshunt 1; Ruislip Manor 1, Marlow 1; Ware 1, Eastbourne United 0; Wembley 0, Letchworth Town 2; Worthing 5, Hounslow 3. Second division: Eastbourne Town 1, Aylesbury United 0; Feltham 0, Faversham 0; Harrow Borough 1, Addlestone 2; Uxbridge 1, Epping Town 1; Willesden 1, Edgware 1; Windsor and Eton 0, Egham Town 1; Wingate 1, Molesey 0.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier division: Barnet 2, Margate 0; Burton 0, Chelmsford 0; Dartford 3, Cambridge City 0; Dover 0, Wealdstone 3; Guildford Dorking 2, Atherstone 2; Nuneaton 0, Weymouth 2; Stourbridge 3, Wimbledon 1; Telford United 2, Bath 1; Tonbridge 1, Grantham 0; Yeovil 0, Kettering 0. First division: North: Bedworth 1, Stevenage 2; Cheltenham 5, King's Lynn 0; Corby 2, Bromsgrove 3; Dunstable 0, Tamworth 1; Kidderminster 1, Witney Town 2; Merthyr Tydfil 1, A. P. Leamington 1; Milton Keynes 1, Enderby 1; Redditch 5, Barry 1; Wellingborough 3, Bedford 0. South: Andover 1, Folkestone/Sheppey 1; Bexley United 0, Trowbridge 0; Crawley 0, Gravesend 1; Dorchester 0, Bognor Regis 0; Hastings 2, Salisbury 2; Hillingdon 1, Canterbury 1; Metropolitan Police 1, Ashford 1; Minehead 3, Ramsgate 0; Poole 3, Basingstoke 3; Waterlooville 1, Bideford 0.

European matches

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Group eight: West Germany 1, Malta 0.

Group eight table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Greece	3	1	2	0	7	6	4
W Germany	2	1	1	0	2	2	3
Bulgaria	2	0	1	1	3	3	1
Malta	1	0	0	1	0	1	0

BELGIAN LEAGUE: Winterslag 1, Antwerp 4; Charleroi 2, Anderlecht 2; Beerschot 2, Lokeren 0; RWD Molenbeek 4, Olympic Montignies 1; FC Brugos 4, Lierse 0; Malines 0, CS Bruges 0; Diest 1, FC Liege 0; Standard Liege 3, Waregem 0; Beveren 1, Beringen 2; Berchem 1, Ostend 1.

SPANISH LEAGUE: Real Madrid 1, Real Zaragoza 0; Murcia 2, Athletic Bilbao 4; Elche 1, Barcelona 0; Granada 1, Malaga 0; Celta of Vigo 1, Valencia 1; Espanol of Barcelona 2, Hercules of Alicante 1; Las Palmas 1, Salamanca 1; Real Sociedad 1, Atletico Madrid 1.

PORTUGUESE LEAGUE: Benfica 1, Sporting 1; Guimaraes 0, Leixoes 0; Porto 2, Boavista 1; Setubal 1, Farense 2; Olhanense 1, Cuf 2; Academico 3, Espinho 1; Belenenses 3, Oriental 0; Atletico 2, Tomar 1.

DUTCH LEAGUE: Amsterdam 1, PSV Eindhoven 2; Twente Enschede 3, Roda JC Kerkrade 0; Telstar Velsen 0, Feyenoord 4; Wageningen 1, Go Ahead Eagles Deventer 0; Breda 3, FC Utrecht 1; Excelsior Rotterdam 1, Haarlem 1; Sparta Rotterdam 0, AZ 67 Alkmaar 0; MVV Maastricht 2, De Graafschap Doetinchem 0; The Hague 1, Ajax 0.

WEST GERMAN LEAGUE: Werder Bremen 1, Hamburger 0; Wuppertaler 2, Tennis Borussia Berlin 0.

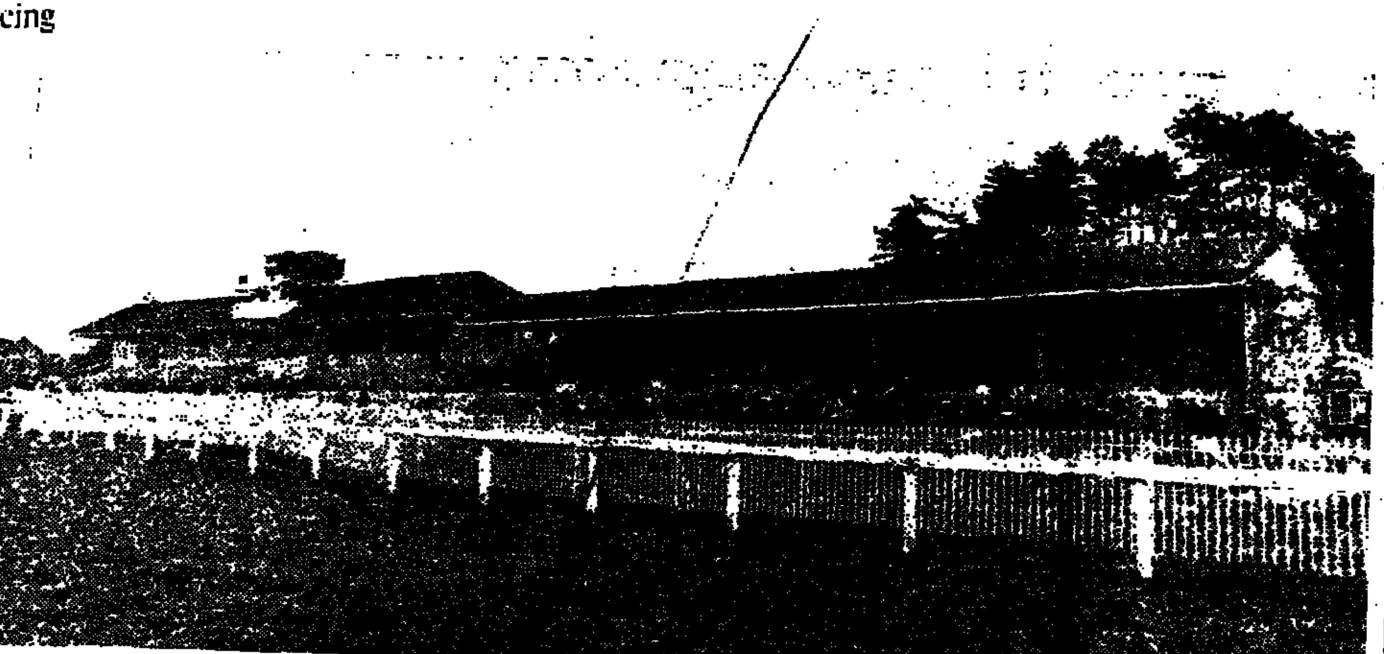
ITALIAN LEAGUE: Ascoli 1, Vicenza 0; Fiorentina 1, Internazionale 1; Juventus 1, Cagliari 0; AC Milan 3, Bologna 0; Roma 0, Cesena 0; Sampdoria 0, Torino 0; Ternana 0, Napoli 0; Varese 0, Lazio 1.

FRENCH LEAGUE: Bastia 3, Angers 0; Nimes 2, St Etienne 0; Troyes 2, Sochaux 2; Nantes 0, Red Star 0; Monaco 1, Strasbourg 0; Lyon 2, Metz 0; Paris 0, St Germain-Lille 0; Lens 1, Rennes 0; Bordeaux 2, Reims 0.

NORTHERN LEAGUE: Evenwood 0, North Shields 2; Penrith 2, Consett 0; Shildon 4, Blyth Spartans 4; Whitby 2, Ferryhill 0; Billingham 1, Durham City 2; Bishop Auckland 5, Crook Town 0; West Auckland 0, Whitley Bay 2; Spennymoor 3, Tow Law Town 0. LEAGUE CUP: First round replay: Ashington 4, South Bank 2.

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: First division: Clapton 3, Barking 3; [illegible] Walton and Hersham 1, [illegible] 2; Bromley 0, Hayes 2; Hendon [illegible]; [illegible] 3, Wycombe Wanderers 2; Leatherhead 2, Oxford City 1; [illegible] 0, Bishop's Stortford 1; [illegible] 3, Sutton United 0; Tooting and Mitcham United 2, Woking 0; Walthamstow Avenue 0, Dulwich Hamlet 1. Second division: Aveley 3, St Albans City [illegible]; Boreham Wood 1, [illegible] 0; Finchley 1, Chesham United [illegible]; Harlow Town 2, Hornchurch 0; Hertford [illegible]; Horsham and Parkeston [illegible]; Hertford Town 3, [illegible] 0; Hampton 1, Tilbury 0; Maidenhead Utd 0, Wokingham Town 0; Staines 2.

Racing



The bookmakers course: 350 acres of Lingfield Park bought for £500,000 as part of the leisure activities group of Ladbrokes.

Lingfield Park sold to Ladbrokes

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

So Lingfield Park is to be saved after all. When Major Peter Beckwith Smith decided in October to put his family's private course on the market, we were told that neither the Levy Board nor United Racecourses nor Racecourse Holdings Trust were interested in buying it, and, considering the present financial climate, things looked distinctly bleak. But it was announced yesterday that the Ladbroke group have stepped into the breach and bought the course for a figure in the region of £500,000.

Cyril Stein, the chairman of Ladbrokes, is of the opinion that Lingfield will fit well into the leisure activities of his group which is now involved in hotels, property, casinos, holidays, and entertainments, quite apart from the betting side of the business. Their overriding consideration in the acquisition of Lingfield is to ensure that racing continues there. Apparently the inspiration for the purchase sprang from John Sutcliffe senior, the Epsom trainer, who wanted to see Lingfield saved for racing. Soon after hearing that it was for sale, Sutcliffe began getting in touch with those who felt the same way as he did, and finally he sold the idea to Mr Stein.

Lingfield will become a wholly-owned but autonomous subsidiary of Ladbrokes. It will be run by a board of directors, under the chairmanship of John Sutcliffe, comprising John Hughes, who is to be the managing director and the clerk of the course; Christopher Collins, the newly elected president of the Racehorse Owners' Association, Lord Oaksey, writer, television commentator and rider, and Peter O'Sullevan. Ladbrokes already sponsor the £8,000 Derby trial run there every May.

On Saturday at Chepstow I discussed his new job with Mr Hughes, who will still continue to be the clerk of the course at Chepstow. Mr Hughes said that he is tickled to bits with the offer, and delighted to take up what he believes to be an interesting challenge. "It looks like a good team to be involved with too, doesn't it?", he went on.

This will be the first course in the south-east that Hughes has taken under his wing although he was initially assistant and then manager at Epsom before taking charge at Haydock Park and Chepstow. Those who have raced regularly at either of those two courses during the past few years have certainly seen the fruits of his work particularly in the field of race sponsorship. Saturday was a prime example at Chepstow. A few years ago a clerk of the course would have thrown up his hands in horror at the prospect of being asked to stage a meeting so soon before Christmas. But that is just the sort of challenge that Mr Hughes likes.

There were memorable performances in the Panama Cigar Hurdle (qualifying race) and the Finale Junior Hurdle. Border Incident easily won the Panama Cigar Hurdle. Some will argue that a strict interpretation of the form makes him much the same sort of horse as William Pitt, but that is a compliment in itself and interesting because the two are likely to meet in the final race of the series run at Chepstow on March 8. William Pitt won his heat at Lingfield earlier this month.

Looking at Border Incident one gets the impression that he is still only an excitable baby, an observation that his trainer Richard Head is the first to agree with. But already Border Incident has been moulded into a talented race horse—"The best novice that I have ever sat upon"—was the way that John Francome put it when I talked to him after the race.

Francome ploughed a lone furrow on the wide outside of his field having decided that the ground was far better there while walking the course before racing. It was a shrewd move so typical of this sound young man, who is fast making a name for himself even though he is still basically regarded as Richard Pitman's understudy in Fred Winter's stable by many.

In Francome's sympathetic hands, Border Incident jumped like a buck throughout, and unbelievably quickened to go so far in front towards the end that most of his rivals were barely in sight when he passed the winning post. Before Saturday Border Incident was the only horse to have beaten Papa Noel this season and, in the circumstances, the second division of the Festive Novices Hurdle was regarded as something of a formality for Papa Noel by those who thought that they might pay for some of their Christmas expenses by backing the Findon horse even at odds-on.

But they had not bargained on Paul Kellaway riding Papa Noel in such a way that he managed to convey the impression to most of us in the stands that he thought he was still astride Bula in his heyday if not Border Incident himself. He was still last at halfway and Papa Noel was simply unable to catch My Captain, even though he did beat all the rest in the end.

After Philominsky had beaten a strong field to win the Finale Hurdle, the representative of the William Hill organization promptly promoted him joint favourite with Mrs Parsons for the Triumph Hurdle, the premier event for young hurdlers run at Cheltenham in March. By doing so, he was paying Philominsky a compliment that he thoroughly deserved. This was the strongest field of its kind seen so far this season.

Philominsky was able to outpace Night Nurse after jumping the last flight. Neither Night Nurse nor Jer, who finished 10 lengths farther back in third place, had been beaten before under National Hunt rules.

STATE OF GOING (official): Ludlow: good to soft; Boxing Day: Wolverhampton: Good to soft; Wetherby: Good to soft; Newton Abbot: Soft; Wincanton: Good to soft; Market Rasen: Soft; Huntingdon: Good; Sedgefield: Good.

Preference is for Emma J at Ludlow

By Jim Snow

Today at Ludlow, in the last meeting before Christmas the names of all the races would have pleased Dr Jonson. "Claret, sir, is the drink for boys, port the drink for men, but brandy is for heroes", the great doctor thundered to Boswell in his favourite hostelry.

The Nicholson, father and son, Frenchie and David, take each other on in the three-mile Vintage Port Handicap Steeplechase with Henry Morgan and What a Buck. Last month What a Buck started favourite at Ludlow and was beaten two lengths, but he came out later to win a long distance steeplechase at Cheltenham by five lengths. He stays three miles and more, and I think he should be capable of giving 11lb to Henry Morgan, runner-up to King Flame at Nottingham. Maybe the bigger danger to What a Buck will come from Colonel Mustard. The six-year-old won by three lengths over Ludlow's two miles and a half in October, but later was well beaten into third place at Towcester by Pava's Boy. Colonel Mustard is one of several good rides for Thorner. With 30 winners he is only four behind Stack, who will not be at Ludlow.

Thorner could pull a valuable point or two back from Stack this afternoon for besides Colonel Mustard he has an excellent chance in the Claret Handicap Hurdle on Hamswell, a most respectable third in a big field at Ludlow in his only appearance so far this season. He was beaten by Space Boy, but is 13lb better handicapped with him for a beating of six lengths, but although Hamswell looks sure to go well my preference is for Emma J. Trained in Shropshire by Walter Whiston, the mare has won her last two races at Taunton and Nottingham in first-rate style.

Royal Frolic is taken to beat the Market Rasen winner, Finmoss, in the Burgundy Novices' Steeplechase (12.30).

Fakenham results

12.45: 1, Sasha (1-4); 2, Grecian Comedy (33-1); 3, Gypsecloud (33-1). 5 ran.
1.15: 1, Cloudy Boy (7-2 jt fav); 2, Scots Gambol (8-1); 3, Comic (7-1). 13 ran. Inquisitive 7-2 jt fav. The Donsian did not run.
1.45: 1, Punch Up (5-4 fav); 2, The Fast One (7-4); 3, Tattenham Fair (6-1). 7 ran.
2.15: 1, Silver Bing (15-8 fav); 2, Tudor Jewel (2-1); Prince Abu (12-1). 5 ran.
2.45: 1, Dingle Poke (5-1); 2, Soho Sol (9-4); 3, Beechwalk (5-4 fav). 6 ran.
3.15: 1, Holly Park (evens fav); 2, Lavender Trousers (14-1); 3, Double Dwelling (11-10). 5 ran.

Sedgefield

12.30: 1, Clerino (6-1); 2, Kinmvie (4-9); 3, Aucklander (14-1). 6 ran.
1.0: 1, Prince Town (4-5); 2, Racionzer (9-2); 3, Flying Hero (7-2). 6 ran. Lord Street did not run.
1.30: 1, Cantabet (10-11); 2, Feel Free (5-1); 3, Earls Castle (11-8). 3 ran.
2.0: 1, Acropola (33-1); 2, The Gent (8-1); 3, Gilmarsh (8-1). 15 ran.
2.30: 1, Suspender (12-1); 2, Hall a Sixpence (7-4); 3, Celtic Gold (11-8 fav). 5 ran.
3.0: 1, Chivas Regal (7-4 fav); 2, Clever Prince (3-1); 3, Admiral Wolf (5-1). 11 ran.
3.25: 1, Bebolden (4-1); 2, Grey Aglow (6-11); 3, Roman Lady (12-1). 12 ran.

Uttoxeter

12.30: 1, Quandary (6-4 fav); 2, Miss Goldie (12-1); 3, Vikings Defeat (8-1). 15 ran. Painted Sky did not run.
1.0: 1, Any Prince (5-1); 2, Island Chief (15-2); 3, Swindon Lane (16-1). 15 ran.
1.30: 1, Fixby Gold (8-11); 2, Fire Alarm (14-1); 3, Double Rum (8-1). 6 ran.
2.0: 1, Propinquity (5-1); 2, No Axe to Grind (9-2); 3, Maidensgrove (10-1). 9 ran. Happy God 9-4 fav.
2.30: 1, Third Redeemer (6-1); 2, Algenstock (5-2); 3, Shirlath (4-6). 9 ran.
3.0: 1, Zip Fastener (8-11); 2, Go Perrys (15-2); 3, Hay Bridge (25-1). 15 ran.

Chepstow

12.45: 1, Border Incident (7-1 fav); 2, Cruiter (12-1); 3, Prince Antoino (9-2). 22 ran.
1.15: 1, Star Beauty (5-1); 2, Notwel (2-1 fav); 3, Moonee River (4-1). 7 ran.
1.45: 1, Philominsky (6-1); 2, Night Nurse (15-2); 3, Jer (7-2 fav). 22 ran. Ginger Horse and Zip Fastener did not run.
2.15: 1, Egbert (6-1); 2, Puckham (9-4); 3, Fair Spirit (8-1). 5 ran. Taman did not run.
2.45: 1, Big Henry (11-1); 2, Mr Snowman (5-1); 3, Inshalla (evens fav). 18 ran. Fern Beech and Penroyson did not run.
3.15: 1, My Captain (7-1); 2, Papa Noel (4-9); 3, Master Soy (11-2). 17 ran. Party Time did not run.

Show jumping

Switzerland in the role of England's most formidable opponent

By Pamela Macgregor-Morris

At the end of a week in which Switzerland sprang a surprise by taking the place usually held by West Germany as Britain's most formidable opponent, Major Paul Weier won the Dunhill Victor Ludorum at Olympia on Saturday night. He was riding Wulf, the grey German-bred horse on which, at Aachen in 1971, he finished third to Hartwig Steenken and Harvey Smith for the men's European championship.

Though David Broome was the most consistent rider of the week, Sportsman failed to qualify for the barrage, having faulted in the first round at a particularly testing treble in company with Steenken's Erle. In the second round, Italy's hopes evaporated with a fence down for Vittorio Orlandi and Fiorello, and eventually five with double clear rounds survived to do battle against the clock—the home side with two, and one apiece from Brazil, West Germany and Switzerland.

Nelson Pessoa opened the last round on Smith's and Trevor Banks's Salvador, who put up a good time of 31.2sec, but with two fences down, before Weier and Wulf pulled off what was to be the only triple clear in 32sec.

Warwick, who had won the Dunhill Puissance on the previous evening, and Alwin Schockemöhle came safely through the combination but had earlier come unstuck at the Viaduct, No 2. Then the first of the British pairs, Tony Newbery and Warwick III made their bid, only to fault at the treble in the fastest time of all, 30sec.

Finally Graham Fletcher, with the luck of the draw in his favour, was able to come from behind—as he has so often done in the past. He rode with his customary skill and determination, Tauna Dora responded all the way, and they looked to be the winners until the treble, where the mare failed to adjust after jumping with an excessive enthusiasm, to pay the penalty at the second element, a wide parallel. This left Fletcher third by 0.4 of a second.

Earlier, in Tyrolean dress, Weier and his wife, the former Monica Bachmann—unable to contest the women's world championship at La Baule in July because of the birth of their son, Patrick, wrested the fancy dress stakes from the stranglehold of Broome and Ted Edgar, who have won it for the past two years, but this time finished only fourth. Broome had already achieved his fourth win of the week in the Christmas Cake Stakes on Jaegermeister, beating his sister Elizabeth Edgar on M Rochas by a second, with Pessoa 0.6 of a second slower on the top British winner of the year, Salvador, who had netted £17,000 at the end of the Horse of the Year Show.

The third meeting of the Dunhill series, under the direction of Dorian Williams, was outstandingly successful. Its relaxed atmosphere, in which everything ran to time without apparent effort, thanks to a well tried band of stewards, led inevitably to the drawing of comparisons with other indoor shows whose facilities do not compare with those of this historic building, where the first international horse show ever held in London took place in 1907, with the late Lord Lonsdale as president. As one rider put it: "This is all fun: Wembley is just hard slog."

CHRISTMAS CAKE STAKES: 1, D. Broome's Jaegermeister; 2, Mrs T. Edgar's M Rochas; 3, H. Smith's and T. Banks' Salvador (N. Pessoa).
DUNHILL CHRISTMAS CRACKER STAKES: 1, H. Steenken's Erle (W. Germany); 2, T. Newbery's Snaffles; T. Banks' Salvador (N. Pessoa).
DUNHILL FANCY DRESS STAKES: 1, Maj P. Weier (Switzerland); 2, H. Steenken and P. Darragh; 3, Mrs and Mrs W. Dunning.
DUNHILL VICTOR LUDORUM: 1, Maj P. Weier's Wulf (Switzerland); 2, A. Schockemöhle's Warwick (West Germany); 3, G. Fletcher's Tauna Dora.

Tennis

NSW titles for Roche and Miss Goolagong

Sydney, Dec 22.—Australia's Evonne Goolagong scored a surprisingly easy win over her compatriot and old rival, Margaret Court, in the New South Wales open women's singles final here today. Miss Goolagong won 6—3, 7—5, playing almost casually against the three-times Wimbledon champion, who is making a comeback after a year out of the game. The quick victory was in contrast to the men's final—a three-hour marathon won in five sets by Tony Roche.

Roche's 7—6, 4—6, 3—6, 6—2, 8—6 win over fellow Australian Phil Dent was his first in a major tournament for two years.

MEN'S SINGLES: Semi-final round: P. Dent (Australia) beat A. Metreveli (USSR), 7—6, 7—5, 6—1; T. Roche (Australia) beat S. Ball (Australia), 7—5, 6—1, 6—1. Final round: Roche beat Dent 7—6, 4—6, 3—6, 6—2, 8—6.

WOMEN'S SINGLES. Semi-final round: Miss E. Goolagong beat Mrs C. Morozova (USSR), 6—1, 7—5; Mrs M. Court (Australia) beat Miss K. Melville (Australia), 6—1, 6—2. Final round: Miss Goolagong beat Mrs Court, 6—3, 7—5.—Reuter.

Cross-country

Black second in Barcelona

Barcelona, Dec 22.—Bronislaw Maloniwski, of Poland, won an international cross-country race with a field of 30 runners from Belgium, England, Poland and Spain. David Black, of Britain was second.

Maloniwski covered the six kilometres (3½ miles) round the grounds of the sports city at the nearby town of Granollers in 28min 4.4sec.

RESULT: 1, B. Maloniwski (Poland), 28min 4.4sec; 2, D. Black (GB), 28:08.4; 3, A. Campos (Spain), 28:24.0; 4, J. Ornelis (Belgium), 28:30.0.—AP

Squash rackets

Britain at full strength for five a side climax

By Rex Bellamy
Squash Rackets Correspondent

The squash rackets associations of Britain and Pakistan have been criticized for restricting their current series of international matches to amateurs. But they deserve praise for second thoughts. It was announced on Saturday that the series is to have a distinguished five a side climax: an additional match featuring most of their leading players, professionals and amateurs, to be played at Wembley on January 28. This is something of an innovation, though in recent years many international matches have been "shamateur" rather than amateur.

Britain will be at full strength, with Barrington, Easter and possibly Patterson (if he wins a play-off with Richardson and Verow) joining the leading amateurs, Ayton and Corby. The Pakistani side will probably consist of two professionals, Alauddin and Yasin, and three amateurs, Mohibullah, Zaman and Saleem.

A notable absentee is Jahan, who has had an exciting first year as a professional. In the necessary task of earning a living, a touring professional has to compete on the Australian, South African and British circuits. In South Africa, Jahan beat Barrington in three matches out of five and finished second to Hunt in the tour standings. But he incurred official displeasure because it is considered naughty for a Pakistani to play in a country with apartheid laws.

As a compatriot puts it, "Jahan is in the bad books because he went to South Africa". But there was no other way for Jahan to maintain his income, though he did try to get temporary work at home. On Saturday he observed, sadly: "I would love to play for my country any time they need me."

Pakistan have made a change at fourth string for their second amateur match against Britain at Brandon Hall, near Coventry, tonight. Maqsood, Yasin's brother, replaces Rehman, Pakistani's only loser when the series began at Stockton. Mohibullah, Zaman and Saleem should ensure that Pakistan take a 2—0 lead. The third and last amateur match will be played at Wembley on January 7.

For the second successive year Mohibullah beat Zaman in the final of the British amateur championship. The margin at Wembley on Saturday was 10—8, 9—5, 5—9, 9—5, the time one hour and 24 minutes. The first game lasted 32 minutes and doubtless affected Zaman's confidence, particularly as he had made an immense effort in self-discipline by concentrating on length rather than indulging his flair for deception at the front of the court.

Mohibullah led 4—0 in the third game and might, therefore, have won more easily. But his composure and his further progress were briefly disrupted by errors and penalty points (both men tended to be only moderately obliging in allowing the other a clear run towards drop shots). Mohibullah is lean and loose-limbed and has the balanced agility of all bandy-legged athletes. The crucial factor was his anticipation, quickness and telescopic reach. Zaman's sharpest thrusts were often parried: and others went into the tin.

By contrast, Zaman was more vulnerable to sudden assault. An important example came when he was serving at 4—5 in the fourth game, but was put out by an explosive reverse angle. Such arduously startling changes of pace punctuated a match admirable for its proficiency, rather than its charm. But the same could be said of many men's singles finals at Wimbledon. On such occasions the airs and graces of a game are often suppressed in the pursuit of success.

Ludlow programme

12.30 BURGUNDY NOVICES STEEPLECHASE (Div I: £204: 2m 1f)

40-040p Crafty Ann (D. Taylor), R. Clay, 6-11-4 .... J. Bourke
00-2000 Devon Satyr (G. Howe), A. Fisher, 9-11-4 .... R. Weaver
0410f1 Finmoss (J. Edmonds), R. Edwards, 5-11-4 .... J. O'Neill
00-0000 Great Expectations (Mrs Wharton), C. Miller, 5-11-4 D. Cartwright
00343f John Crocker (A. Mildmay-White), G. Doidge, 7-11-4 N. Flanagan 5
220300 La Danza (Mrs McAlpine), W. Francis, 7-11-4 .... T. Stack
0-403n4 Ludicrus Sextus (D. Proctor), D. Dartnall, 7-11-4 G. Dartnall 5
33-3302 Markarajah (A. Steven), D. Ancil, 5-11-4 .... D. Sunderland
000000- Neufchatel (Mrs Macdonald-Buchanan), D. Nicholson, 6-11-4 J. King
000fff Never Weaken (A. Oliver), M. Oliver, 9-11-4 .... P. Barton 7
1 Royal Frolic (Sir E. Hanmer), F. Rimell, 9-11-4 .... J. Burke

1 Royal Frolic, 3-1 Markarajah, 5-1 Finmoss, 6-1 John Crocker, 15-2 La Danza, 8-1 Ludicrus Sextus, 9-1 Neufchatel, 16-1 others.

1.0 AMONTILLADO HURDLE (Handicap: £272: 2m 1f)

210010- Cash and Run (D. Adams), Miss Wint, 10-11-11 .... C. Astbury
3-40030 Prims Boy (CD) (Mrs McMahon), B. McMahon, 8-11-10 T. Day 7
021310 Crimson Carpet (H. Williams), A. W. Jones, 9-11-8 .. B. Sayles 7
410100 Beware (R. Moore), R. Clay, 6-11-3 .... J. Bourke
300p-33 Delapre Lad (F. Pursglove), J. Peacock, 11-11-2 ...... T. Stack
10-3004 Mohawk Councillor (CD) (A. Loades-Carter), H. Webb, 7-11-0 P. Barton 7
2p0-000 Galli Don (G. Price), Price, 8-10-13 .... Mr C. Price 7
01003-0 Sohopeful (Mrs Tate), M. Tate, 5-10-12 .... R. Evans
100u-00 Tophole (E. Norman), R. E. Peacock, 6-10-12 .... R. Crank
0-0f Tabby (Mrs Brown), R. Edwards, 8-10-9 .... J. O'Neill
1-00000 Rabra (Mrs Spoke), F. Yardley, 11-10-9 .... J. Williams
200001 Blaway (I. Anderson), A. W. Jones, 6-10-7 .... B. Arnold 7
000034 Kellater (S. Davies), T. Yarnold, 6-10-6 .... Mr G. Jones 7
000110 Alf's Pleasure (A. George), W. Charles, 5-10-6 .... J. Francome
p003-23 Briarcote (Mrs Shaw), O. O'Neill, 6-10-4 .... M. James 7
02p-000 Medina Prince (F. Pursglove), J. Peacock, 5-10-5 .... A. Mawson
410-040 Silver Serenade (J. Cross), B. Cambidge, 7-10-5 Mr C. Jackson 7
0-0f000 Firesay (B. Finch), J. Bower, 4-10-5 .... Mr S. Parkyn 5
003 Neonace (W. Whiston), Whiston, 5-10-5 .... R. F. Davies
-003440 Delbounty (G. Wynn), W. Swainson, 4-10-3 .... S. Holmes 7
Take Care II (J. Parkman), H. Payne, 5-10-1 .. N. Flanagan 5
0p-032u Blaste Blaze (Mrs Atkin), O. O'Neill, 9-10-10 .... J. Mullen 7
Misdevina (E. Birchall), Birchall, 8-10-0 .... C. Smith 7
p0000p Kalamitous (R. Morris), Morris, 5-10-0 .... R. Dickin 5

3-1 Crimson Carpet, 7-2 Sohopeful, 4-1 Prims Boy, 6-1 Delapre Lad, 7-1 Blaste Blaze(?), 9-1 Cash and Run, 14-1 Kellater, 16-1 others.

1.30 RUMPUNCH NOVICES HURDLE (Handicap: £272: 2m 1f)

01 Clydebank (R. Thomas), O. O'Neill, 6-11-9 ...... M. James 7
Funchal (P. Crow), R. E. Peacock, 8-11-2 .... R. Crank
00-1040 Delamerie (Mrs Henriques), T. Forster, 4-11-2 .... G. Thorner
00f-003 Blabbermouth (Mrs Banks), M. McCourt, 6-10-13 .. M. Blackshaw
224400 Manor House (C. Owens), T. Yarnold, 5-10-12 .. Mr G. Jones 7
3300-92 Nemiklio (Mrs Hughes), A. W. Jones, 4-10-12 .... J. Burke
440- Top Score (Mrs Tate), M. Tate, 5-10-11 .... R. Evans
0010 Sovroy (J. Hickman), M. Tate, 5-10-11 ...... Mr B. Evans 7
000-041 Ghent (C. Hurt), P. Ransom, 4-10-8 .... J. O'Neill
004-004 Swinging Chick (R. Moore), P. Beven, 6-10-6 ...... P. Russell
18 0-p Your Nibs (M. Reid), Reid, 6-10-5 .... J. Suthern
20 0 Frosted (Mrs Bewicke), C. Bewicke, 6-10-4 .... J. King
21 000000 Queen's Folly (A. Arnold), Arnold, 7-10-3 ...... C. Astbury
23 p0000-0 Joint Affair (J. Bower), Bower, 5-10-2 .... A. Mawson
25 4of-02 Gavin's Boy (Mrs Jones), Earl Jones, 4-10-1 .... R. O'Donovan 7
25 00-040 Stanway Girl (S. Priest), W. Swainson, 3-10-0 .... D. Cartwright
26 p0030b- Newtown Blues (Mrs Bridgett), P. Bridgett, 8-10-0 Mr C. Bridgett 7

100-30 Clydebank, 4-1 Blabbermouth, 5-1 Delamerie, 6-1 Nemiklio, 7-1 Ghent, 8-1 Sovroy, 10-1 Gavin's Boy, 14-1 others.

2.0 VINTAGE PORT STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £408: 3m)

4 1-40321 What A Buck (Lord Vestey), D. Nicholson, 7-11-6 .... J. King
5 210-113 Colonel Mustard (C) (Mrs Wiggin), T. Forster, 6-11-0 G. Thorner
6 04f014 Merry Maker (D) (A. Mildmay-White), G. Doidge, 9-10-13 S. May
8 0-320u2 Henry Morgan (C) (Exors of late Mrs O. Preston-Jones), H. Nicholson, 7-10-9 J. Suthern
9 10301-f Flora Finching (D) (Mrs Wheatley), F. Rimell, 8-10-8 .. J. Burke
10 112120 Brokopondo (R. Barber), H. Payne, 7-10-6 .... N. Flanagan 5
15 30000f- Furso (H. Brassey), Brassey, 6-10-0 .... T. Stack

6-4 What A Buck, 4-1 Henry Morgan, 9-2 Merry Maker, 6-1 Colonel Mustard, 8-1 Flora Finching, 13-1 Brokopondo, 20-1 others.

2.30 BURGUNDY STEEPLECHASE (Div II: £204: 2m 1f)

1 0p-p3f0 Banquo (D. Davies), F. Rimell, 6-11-4 .... J. Burke
3 2100-00 Definitely (W. Parkinson), F. Rimell, 6-11-4 .... K. White
4 0p Ever-Ready (A. Dewsbury), B. Cambidge, 6-11-4 ...... R. Evans
5 4400-pf Flap (Mrs Bailey), K. Bailey, 6-11-4 .... D. Sunderland
7 030- Heswalliam (H. Jackson), F. Yardley, 6-11-4 .... J. Williams
8 00003f King Credo (R. Hill), C. Bewicke, 7-11-4 .... J. King
9 f1113-0 O Mandado (Mrs Harrison), D. Nicholson, 7-11-4 .. R. Champion
10 2-u003f Picton (Lady Richardson), Earl Jones, 6-11-4 .... R. O'Donovan
11 0-03000 Rockelaura (M. Low), Low, 7-11-4 .... Mr G. Jones 7
12 30p304 Saint-Lo (F. Yardley), Yardley, 6-11-4 .... P. Barton 7
13 320-000 Adam's Brake (J. Hyams), D. Nicholson, 5-10-7 ...... J. Suthern
14 0000-40 Royal Joke (J. Newdegate), G. Owen, 4-10-7 .... J. Bourke

5-1 O Mandado, 4-1 Banquo, 11-2 King Credo, 7-1 Definitely, 8-1 Picton, 10-1 Flap, Heswalliam, 12-1 Saint-Lo, 16-1 others.

3.0 CLARET HURDLE (Handicap: £374: 2m 1f)

1 0uf00-p Tussaud (Mrs G. Clay), Clay, 7-11-13 .... M. Salaman
2 000011 Emma J (B. Simpson), W. Whiston, 6-11-5 .... R. F. Davies
4 01210-3 Hamswell (Lady Dulverton), T. Forster, 5-10-12 .... G. Thorner
5 103f00 Whicker's World (Mrs Dedman), R. Edwards, 6-10-11 .. J. O'Neill
6 200132 Space Boy (CD) (Mrs Gittins), H. Gittins, 5-10-11 R. Dickin 5
7 Cloud Park (CD) (T. Longman), M. Tate, 5-10-11 .... R. Evans
8 221020 Grey Dove (G. Price), Price, 5-10-10 .... Mr G. Jones 7
9 r1fu0 Lonley Isle (J. Pogley), O. O'Neill, 7-10-9 .... M. James 7
10 233040 Scoundrel (J. Morris), T. Yarnold, 6-10-1 ....
11 1-04400 Lord Lear (C. Knipe), Knipe, 7-10-0 .... J. Williams
12 340420- Joes Bar (M. Lickert), S. Bridge, 7-10-0 .... M. O'Shea 7

100-30 Space Boy, 4-1 Emma J, 5-1 Hamswell, 13-2 Grey Dove, 8-1 Whicker's World, 10-1 Lonely Isle, Scoundrel, 16-1 others.

Ludlow selections

By Our Racing Staff

12.30 ROYAL FROLIC is specially recommended. 1.0 Crimson Carpet. 1.30 Clydebank. 2.0 What a Buck. 2.30 King Credo. 3.0 Emma J.

Hockey

Hertfordshire step nearer to the county title

By Sydney Friskin

Lincolnshire 0 Hertfordshire 3

Hertfordshire came through a hard game at Bourne yesterday to beat Lincolnshire and win the east group final of the county hockey championship, sponsored by Benson and Hedges, for the fourth year in succession. This brought their tally of successes in this group to seven and they remained unbeaten in their last 27 matches. Hertfordshire, who won the overall title last year, will meet either the northern or western champions (Devon) in the semi-final round.

This was a closer game than the margin of victory suggests. All three goals were scored in the second half on an excellent pitch and if Hurst, the Hertfordshire goalkeeper, had not saved a penalty stroke the score would have been 1—1. It was only in the closing minutes that Hertfordshire made sure of victory.

Brooker gave Hertfordshire the lead early in the second half from a short corner. He has throughout the season been one of the main pillars of their defence and the goal he scored put them in a better frame of mind.

Lincolnshire came back strongly into the game and Mager, a promising young inside forward, was one of their most resourceful players. But after Ashby rounded off a combined raid by putting Hertfordshire two up, Lincolnshire knew that only a supreme effort would have helped them to save the day. Ashby had come in as a substitute for Hazell whose journey to Bourne was delayed because of car trouble.

Hertfordshire's third goal was the result of one of those rare incidents in which a defender starts a move and finishes it himself. The plan was conceived and completed by Whitaker whose shot from the goal line—it was probably meant as a centre—was deflected into goal by a defender.

LINCOLNSHIRE: G. Preston (Boston); K. Jackson (Normanby Park), A. ... (Skegness), P. Pearson (Boston), ... Tonkin (Boston United), ... (Alford), R. Stanley (Boston), ... (Boston), S. Wharton (Normanby Park), P. Mager (Grimsby), ... Liford (Boston).

HERTFORDSHIRE: J. Hurst (St Albans); D. B. Collison (Southgate), P. Brooker (Bluehearts), D. B. Whitaker (Southgate), S. J. Braco (Welwyn Garden City), C. Perry (Welwyn Garden City), R. Ashby (St Albans), H. Morgan (Old Kingstonians, captain), M. Grainger (St Albans), M. Tideswell (Sanbury), S. F. Guyton (Bluehearts).

Umpires: P. Lake and D. C. Bruce (Eastern Counties).

Devon won the western group final at Glastonbury, beating Wiltshire 1—0 in the play-off. This was Devon's fourth success in this group and curiously enough three of them came from play-offs against Wiltshire. Devon will meet either Lancashire or Cheshire in the quarter-final round.

Kent and Hampshire will play the south group final at Plarstow Lane, Bromley, on Sunday, starting at 1.30. Lancashire and Cheshire will meet in the deciding match of the northern group on Thursday at Aigburth, Liverpool.

Both matches in the semi-final round (southern group) of the national club championship were postponed yesterday because of rain. The match between Southgate and Spencer will probably be played on Sunday but a date for the game between Reading and Bromley has still to be announced. The final in this group is scheduled to be played on January 26.

LONDON LEAGUE: Beckenham 0, Guildford 1; Blackheath 1, Richmond 4; Cheam 1, Spencer 0; Dulwich 1, Surbiton 0; Hounslow 1, Old Kingstonians 0; Maidenhead 3, Wimbledon 0; Purley 0, Bromley 2; Reading 1, Teddington 1; Southgate 5, Hawks 2; Tulse Hill 1, Slough 3.

EAST LEAGUE: Blueharts 2, Broxbourne 1; Chelmsford 2, Cambridge City 1.

HERTFORDSHIRE LEAGUE: Barnet 0, Royston 1; Bishop's Stortford 3, Harpenden 2; Rickmansworth 2, Letchworth 2.

ESSEX LEAGUE: Old Loughtonians 1, Brentwood 0.

CLUB MATCHES: Brighton and Hove 1, Reigate 1; Canterbury 1, Gore Court 1; Cliftonville 2, Marlen Russets 1; West Herts 1, Oxford Hawks 2; Hendon 2, Welwyn Garden City 3; Metropolitan Police 2, Eastcote 1; Old Edwardians 1, Worthing 2; St Albans 1, Hampstead 0; Southern 4, East Grinstead 0; Tunbridge Wells 1, Folkestone Optimists 0; Winchester 3, Newbury 1; Fareham 1, Havant 1.

Yesterday

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: East final: Lincolnshire 0, Hertfordshire 3. West Play-off: Wiltshire 0, Devon 1.

NATIONAL CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP: South—Semi-final round: Postponed: Reading v Bromley; Southgate v Spencer.

MIDDLESEX CUP: Second round: Old Kingstonians 1, Teddington 0; Sunbury 1, Hayes 3.

SURREY CUP: Third round: Woking 0, Barclays Bank 1.

Rackets

How Nicholls destroyed Satow's dream

By Our Rackets Correspondent

Mark Nicholls (Malvern) will defend the H. K. Foster Cup, the schools rackets championship against Michael Szarf (Harrow) at Queen's Club this morning. Physically and in hitting power they are the strongest of the original competitors.

Nicholls, as he had been in the first round, was taken to five games, this time by F. C. Satow (Rugby), a most intelligent and tenacious player despite his modest physique, before winning by 14—16, 15—2, 15—2, 11—15, 15—7 in one semi-final. Szarf, with the build of a front row forward, had little trouble with A. C. C. Ashford (Clifton) and won by 15—3, 15—9, 15—8 in the other.

Satow gave notice that he was not going to be cowed by his opponent's reputation and power in the opening game which he won through splendid serving after being down 9—13. He rode the loss of the next two games which to him must have seemed like a storm that blows up and passes quickly.

In the fourth game Satow, slowing down the pace, nibbled away at Nicholls's confidence. At 11—9 to Nicholls there were half a dozen blank hands. Nicholls was tense and played as if waiting for Satow to defeat himself. Satow, in full control of his strokes, notably his backhand, won the game and straightaway advanced to 6—0 in the final. He was no longer the defender. But then in one hand and a series of hefty blows Nicholls destroyed the daydream.

This was a well played match in every way, full of fast rallies, fine recoveries, clever use of a new ball by Satow and some memorable forehands, taken early, by Nicholls.

SECOND ROUND: M. W. Nicholls (Malvern) beat R. A. J. Myrtle (Winchester), 15—1, 15—3, 15—1; F. C. Satow (Rugby) beat J. O. D. Orders (Winchester), 6—15, 15—13, 15—12, 15—9; M. A. Szarf (Harrow) beat W. Ormond (Wellington), 15—6, 15—1, 15—1; A. C. C. Ashford (Clifton) beat M. N. P. Mockridge (Marlborough), 11—15, 15—10, 3—15, 15—7, 15—4.

SEMI-FINAL ROUND: Nicholls beat Satow, 14—16, 15—2, 15—2, 11—15, 15—7; Szarf beat Ashford, 15—3, 15—9, 15—8.

INCLEDON WEBBER CUP (colts). Final: R. M. Tindall (Harrow) beat H. R. Murray-Philipson (Eton), 15—8, 15—13, 15—7.

Skiing

Miss Nelson chooses right wax to beat Austrians

Saalbach, Dec 22.—Cindy Nelson, of the United States, upset the confident Austrians on their home ground by winning the season's third world cup downhill women's skiing race here.

The 19-year-old from Lutsen, Minnesota, covered the 1.7 miles, dropping 2,130ft, in 1min 36.26sec. Miss Nelson had threatened to spring a surprise when she recorded the second fastest practice time yesterday. "But the course was very different today. The flats were the same, but the snow was much smoother, making it harder to make turns", she said after the race.

In the crisp morning sunlight Switzerland's Marie Therese Nadig, fastest in practice, took second place in 1min 36.49sec, and Rosi Mittermaier, of West Germany, was third in 1min 37sec.

The fastest Austrian was 16-year-old Elfi Deufl, in her first season of world cup skiing. She took sixth place, one spot ahead of her team-mate and overwhelming favourite, Annemarie Moser-Pröll.

The Austrians, who expected to repeat their triumph at Cortina last week when they placed five girls in the top 10, were overtaken by the West Germans, who took third, fourth and fifth places today.

Experts said the choice of wax proved decisive. Miss Nelson, jubilant after her second victory, said: "Our team has been well prepared this year and we had good wax today."

The Austrians, for whom Wiltrud Drexel, the winner of the first downhill at Val d'Isère, could only manage 10th place, evidently chose the wrong wax.

DOWNHILL: 1, C. Nelson (US), 1min 36.26sec; 2, Marie Nadig (Switzerland), 1:36.49; 3, R. Mittermaier (WG), 1:37.00; 4, I. Epple (WG), 1:37.11; 5, T. Treichl (WG), 1:37.16; 6, E. Deufl (Austria), 1:37.32.

DOWNHILL STANDINGS (after three races): 1, C. Nelson (US), 56pts; 2, W. Drexel (Austria), 41pts; 3, A. Moser-Pröll (Austria), 35pts; 4, D. Debernard (France), 26pts; 5, M. T. Nadig and B. Zurbriggen (Switzerland), 20pts.

WORLD CUP STANDINGS: 1, A. Moser-Pröll, 69 pts; 2, C. Nelson, 56pts; 3, R. Mittermaier, 46pts; 4, W. Drexel, 42pts; 5, F. Serrat (France), 38pts; 6, M. Kaserer (Austria), 32pts.—Reuter.

Latest snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	off Piste	Weather (5 pm) —	C
Andermatt	100	200	Good	Powder	Fine	-5
Excellent skiing conditions.						
Anzere	60	240	Good	Powder	Fine	-8
Good skiing conditions.						
Crans	50	150	Good	Varied	Fine	-3
Good skiing conditions.						
Davos	100	210	Good	Varied	Fine	-4
Excellent skiing conditions.						
Flaine	125	300	Good	Powder	Fine	0
Excellent skiing conditions.						
Klosters	125	225	Good	Powder	Fine	-3
Excellent skiing conditions.						
Mürren	100	250	Good	Fair	Fine	0
Good skiing conditions.						
Niederau	80	140	Good	Powder	Fine	-1
Excellent skiing conditions.						
Pontresina	50	120	Good	Powder	Fine	-4
Excellent skiing conditions.						
Verbier	50	160	Good	Heavy	Fine	6
Wind-packed breakable crust.						

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes.

SCOTLAND: Cairngorm: Main runs, some complete, others broken. Wet snow, lower slopes, very little wet snow. Vertical runs 400ft. Access roads clear. Snow level 2,800ft. Glenshee: Main runs, narrow and broken. Wet snow on a firm base. Lower slopes, limited nursery areas. Wet snow. Vertical runs 600ft. Access roads clear. Snow level 200ft.

For the record

Golf

SALISBURY: Rhodesian Masters (South Africans unless stated): 210, A. Henning 70, 71, 69; 212, D. Hayes 69, 73, 70; 213, J. Fourie 69, 74, 70; V. Baker 70, 73, 70; J. Bland 71, 70, 72; 214, D. Gammon (Rhodesia), 72, 70, 72; 215, D. Wren 72, 71, 72; S. Hobday (Rhodesia), 68, 72, 75; 217, G. Harvey (Rhodesia), 74, 71, 72; N. Hunt (GB), 70, 73, 75; 218, H. Inggs 71, 73, 74; 219, F. R. Verwey 71, 74, 74; R. Brask (US), 71, 75, 73; 220, C. Le Grange 72, 75, 73; A. Oosthuizen 70, 73, 77; 221, R. Chapman 71, 78, 72.

Rugby League

FIRST DIVISION: Castleford 10, St Helens 10; Leeds 24, Keighley 9. Yesterday: Bramley 8, Salford 13; Dewsbury 11, York 7; Halifax 3, Widnes 10.
SECOND DIVISION: Batley 15, New Hunslet 10. Yesterday: Huddersfield 36, Leigh 0; Huyton 13, Swinton 8.

Boxing

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica: WBA lightweight title: Roberto Duran (Panama) beat Masataka Takayama (Japan), referee stopped fight in first round.

Lacrosse

SOUTH OF ENGLAND LEAGUE. First division: Kenton 9, Old Secopians 3. Second division: Croydon 6, St Helier A 0; Purley A 13, Purley B 4. Third division: Purley C 1, Croydon A 0.

Cricket

MELBOURNE: Sheffield Shield: New South Wales, 377 for seven dec (R. McCosker 85 not out, M. Rosen 76, A. Turner 54); Victoria, 172 and 277 for four (I. Redpath 150 not out).
PERTH: Sheffield Shield: Western Australia, 256 (R. Laird 54, J. Thomson 4 for 64) and 269 for five dec (B. Laird 127); Queensland, 107 and 152 for no wicket (G. S. Chappell 90 not out).
NEW DELHI: Ranji Trophy: Delhi, 351 for 8 dec; Services, 49 (B. S. Bedi 5 for 6) and 61 (Bedi 5 for 9).

Tennis

CHRISTCHURCH: R. Simpson beat J. Soares, 6—3, 6—2; S. Carnaham beat R. Hawkes, 3—6, 6—3, 6—3. Miss N. Bohm beat Miss S. Haig, 7—6, 6—7, 6—3; Miss R. Hunt beat Miss D. McKinnel, 6—3, 6—2.
CAPE TOWN: Western Province championships: Final: Miss S. Walsh beat Miss I. Kloss, 6—4, 6—1. Final: R. Hewitt beat P. Cramer, 6—1, 6—0.
SAO PAULO: South American zone, semi-final round: Brazil lead Argentina 2—1.

Ice hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Philadelphia Flyers 2, Detroit Red Wings 2; Saint Louis Blues 6, Kansas City Scouts 4; Montreal Canadiens 2, Los Angeles Kings 2; Minnesota North Stars 8, Pittsburgh Penguins 7; New York Islanders 5, Chicago Black Hawks 3; Toronto Canadiens 8, Boston Bruins 4; Atlanta Flames 6, St Louis Blues 2; Montreal Canadiens 6, Vancouver Canucks 1; California Golden Seals 5, Washington Capitals 2.

Skiing

SAUZE D'OULX, Italy.—Slalom, European Cup: 1, P. Gros (Italy), 98.84sec (two runs of 47.66 and 51.18); 2, F. Radici (Italy), 100.32 (49.20 and 51.12); 3, B. Gensbichler (Austria), 103.55 (50.42 and 53.11); 4, N. de Ambrogio (Italy), 103.63 (44.68 and 55.94); 5, W. Rhyner (Switzerland), 103.78 (51.09 and 52.69); 6, P. Schwendener (Switzerland), 103.99 (50.68 and 53.31).

CORTINA D'AMPEZZO.—European Cup, Men's slalom: 1, P. Gros (Italy), 1min 38.84sec; 2, F. Radici (Italy), 1min 40.32sec; 3, B. Gensbichler (Austria), 1min 43.55sec; 4, N. Desambrogio (Italy), 1min 43.62sec; 5, W. Thyner (Switzerland), 1min 43.78sec; 6, P. Schwendener (Switzerland), 1min 43.99sec.

MUTTERS, Austria: Women's slalom: 1, C. Zechmeister (W Germany), 87.42sec (two runs of 43.51 and 43.91sec); 2, L. M. Morerod (Switzerland), 87.43 (44.10 and 43.33); 3, D. Viberti (Italy), 89.72 (44.49 and 45.23); 4, P. Behr (W Germany), 89.78 (44.42 and 45.36); 5, M. Berwein (W Germany), 90.75 (45.35 and 45.40); 6, M. Danner (Austria), 91.16 (45.27 and 45.88).

SAN SICARIO, ITALY: European Cup: Women's slalom: 1, H. Bauer (Austria), 88.59sec; 2, C. Mauritz (Austria), 89.12; 3, L. Stollmer (Austria), 89.11; 4, M. Naguno (Japan), 89.22; 5, E. Okazaki (Japan), 89.67; 6, M. Couttet (France), 89.70. Cup Placings: 1, A. Rudigier (Austria), 59 pts; 2, G. Strisner (Austria), 49; 3, A. Pelautschnig (Austria), 47; 4, E. Eltonbaumer (Italy), 46; 5, F. Bracelli (Italy), 40; 6, L. Sollner, 34.

Lessons that Britain could learn in the debate over freedom of the press

Bonn

In legal terms there can be few countries in the world which afford their press as much freedom as West Germany does. The main threat, and it is a serious one, to press freedom is economic.

By British standards, the West German law of defamation is risible. An extreme recent example was when a magazine reported that the head of a national security service was an East German spy. Although it is difficult to imagine a more libellous statement, the man received only DM20,000 (about £3,500) in damages through a court. Nor need a West German editor worry about contempt of court, because the principle scarcely exists. Thus when police arrest a suspect, the papers carry headlines like: "Munich Sex Murders Cleared up", publish the man's picture and may also name him, all before he is even charged. But under a century-old law, a person who feels he has been maligned has the right to demand the publication of his own rebuttal. There is also a West German Press Council broadly comparable with the British.

Economically, there is a lot of bad news nowadays from the West German press. The economic downturn has led this year to a marked decline in advertising revenue—around 20 per cent in many cases—just as the price of newsprint has shot up. Nearly all newspapers have raised their cover prices in the past few months by 20 to 25 per cent.

Sales of daily newspapers are slowly but steadily falling. The latest figures suggest a decline of more than 1 per cent a month. Many small newspapers have been driven to the wall in the past few years, and the rate at which this is happening is accelerating.

The other danger to press freedom, partly connected with the foregoing, is the growth of monopolies. The most notable offender here is the Axel Springer press empire, which, to give just one example, owns the only two Sunday newspapers nationally distributed.

Industrial relations within the press are, as usual in West Germany, very good. There was a two-day unofficial printers' strike in April, 1973, but that was the first dispute for 21 years.

The practice of allowing journalists a powerful say in the running of their paper, including in some cases the right to veto or approve the appointment of a new editor, is spreading in West Germany. Several newspapers now have editorial committees with "teeth", and some publishers are as happy about this as the editorial staffs.

The Bonn interior ministry is at present at work on the draft of a bill to enshrine press freedom, as guaranteed by the constitution, in the statute book.

Dan van der Vat

Paris

The freedom of the press in France is nowadays threatened more by economic factors, and by the politics of printing trade workers than by political interference. The days when French governments used to try to influence newspapers by bringing pressure to bear on them indirectly, or directly by suspending them, ended with the Algerian war. Journalists no longer call on government departments to receive their regular "envelopes" with the price for selling their consciences. But they can—and some do—get advantages in kind for writing what pleases the government.

The complaint nowadays is rather that the substantial government aids to the press, which include subsidized newsprint, special postal rates, tax exemptions on reinvested profits, are too indiscriminate, and do not give special help to those that need it most. These are the dwindling number of political newspapers, or "journals of opinion" as they are called in France, which have small circulations and struggle to survive. Last year, for the first time, the government agreed to give exceptional subsidies to "journals of opinion", but did so without any discrimination. The beneficiaries were the Catholic *La Croix*, the communist *L'Humanite*, and the independent left-wing *Le Quotidien de Paris*.

There were fears that the "General Delegation for Information" set up by the government last year might turn out to be an instrument to channel information and influence the press. These have not materialized but the government—or big business—indirectly influences the press through advertising, by getting advertisers to withhold orders from certain newspapers, because the articles they published were disapproved of. *Le Monde* has experienced this. A group of economic and financial journalists recently published a white paper denouncing a number of such cases.

The French law of libel is much less severe than in other countries, especially Britain. But the law on the press dates from 1880 and is completely obsolete. It makes practically no distinction between a newspaper and any other commercial enterprise, and no allowance, for instance, for editorial associations of journalists, the Societes de Redacteurs. These societies, where they exist, have some control over the appointment of the editor, but it is limited. They are not enshrined in any law but depend on the goodwill of the management—French newspapers are controlled by their owners at one end, and the printing trade workers at the other, often acting in a kind of complicity against the journalists. In France the newspaper owner, who may be just a capitalist, or also a journalist, is more powerful than the editor, and exercises direct control over policy. The situation in which an editor pursued a policy which did not meet with the owner's approval is inconceivable here.

French journalists are highly unionized, and the rate of union membership, between 50 and 60 per cent, is the highest of any profession in this country. But there is no closed-shop policy. Recruitment is quite free. The unions defend their members against the employers, but they do not enjoy any special rights in the eyes of the law. There is no special provision against dismissal of journalists, except in so-called cases of conscience. The battle over dismissals at the ORTE, the state radio and television, where one journalist in four is being dropped in the reorganization, is a case in point.

Charles Hargrove

Points of reference by Times correspondents

We publish here a series of reports from our correspondents in Washington and some European capitals on the press, trade unions and the law. They provide points of reference which could be of some use in the continuing debate on the closed-shop principle for journalists in the Government's Trade Union Bill.

All the countries reported have strong trade unions, but with one exception the closed shop does not operate in the editorial departments of newspapers. The exception is Italy where, under a law which Mr Michael Foot may be interested to know was introduced by Mussolini, journalists must be members of the National Association of the Press.

Whether Mr Foot wants to stay in the company of the dictator remains to be seen, but closed-shop Italian style would hardly be recognized as such by the TUC. In Italy it does not prevent non-union writers from being employed. Publishers are free to recruit the best available talent on condition that they join the union.

In West Germany, where democracy flourishes perhaps because it came so late, members of the Institute of Journalists would not be threatened by the National Union of Journalists. Two unions live together in happy equality. They are the Deutscher Journalisten-Verband and the Deutscher Journalisten-Union, which is affiliated to the Deutscher Gewerkschaftsbund, the equivalent of the TUC.

The freest press is of course in the United States. Its independence is guaranteed by the First Amendment, yet another argument for a British Bill of Rights. The libel laws vary from state to state, but none inhibit journalists from seeking out the truth as they do in Britain.

Instead of an Official Secrets Act, the press and indeed the individual is served by the Freedom of Information Act. The press was under heavy government attack during the Nixon years, but triumphed because of its own efforts.

Protected by constitutional freedom, journalists exposed the White House machinations and defeated their opponents in honest battle. No British paper could so defend itself in similar circumstances.

The Guild defends the interests of its members, they are the highest paid journalists in the world, without the alleged benefits of a closed shop. It can be militant. Even Walter Cronkite, the TV anchorman who is said to earn $250,000 a year, has manned a picket line.

With all this wonderful freedom it follows that the Amercian press has prospered in doing its public duty. Newspaper advertising revenue is expected to reach a record $7,900m this year. A daily total of 63,800,000 copies are published every day by 1,775 newspapers.

The battle for the new technology has been largely won. About 1,100 papers have escaped from the age of Gutenberg into offset lithography, and some 700 computer typesetting systems have cut costs and generated prosperity.

In comparison, the Dutch press is subsidized, but its freedom has constitutional guarantees. The journalists' union is powerful, but there is no closed shop. Indeed, the union's chairman argues that everyone has the right not to join a union.

In France, the press enjoys subsidized newsprint, cheap postal rates and tax exemptions, but its freedom has been threatened by the withholding of advertising. The publisher is more powerful than the editor. If any country needs a Royal Commission on the press it is France, but again there is no closed shop in the editorial departments.

In most of the countries under review the danger of the closed shop is clearly recognized. In Italy, Mussolini's old law might well have been repealed if it were not for the native ingenuity for circumventing the law.

The British press and Parliament could perhaps learn from some of these countries, but most of all from the United States. The Tribune group may not care to, but there are many self-proclaimed Atlanticists in the Government, including Mr Wilson. The first lesson to be learned is the accepted right of the American people to know, a right unrestricted by unnecessary laws and the obvious dangers of a closed shop.

Louis Heren

Washington

Compared with most other countries, America is a reporter's paradise. American journalists suffer from many disabilities, of which the most insidious is the steady reduction in the number of newspapers, but they do not have to contend wth the class-ridden and secretive governments of the old world.

A year or more ago, the main attack on the press took the form of subpoenas served on reporters demanding that they reveal their sources. Some went to prison to protect them. Mr Agnew's last desperate attempt to save his neck took the form of a mass subpoena on reporters who had exposed his corruption.

Nowadays the threat is indirect. Judges issue "gag rules", forbidding those involved in criminal cases to talk to the press, even if the jury has been sequestered, as it has in the Watergate trial.

Officials at every level try to circumvent the first amendment, of course, and often succeed, but it is generally accepted that the press has the right to discover and publish news of what they are up to.

Curiously enough, the press has been put on the defensive by Watergate. It is a victim of its own tendency to personalize everything. Reporters asked Mr Nixon difficult questions and wrote astonishing (and true) things about him, and people objected to the questioners as much as to the President who told such lies in answering them. They constantly and wilfully forgot that *the questions were asked on behalf of the general public.*

Watergate has, however, achieved one small step for mankind: Congress has greatly strengthened the Freedom of Information Act. The Act allows the press and interested parties free access to government papers which are not classified.

The new amendment, which would never have passed without Watergate, provides that the Government, when challenged, must justify the classification "secret" before a Federal Judge. It should open up many dark corners. Most of the corners should never have been dark in the first place but at least there is no Official Secrets Act here. The Nixon Administration tried to prosecute newspapers which published the Pentagon Papers, which concerned an issue of the gravest national importance, but the courts upheld the First Amendment.

Another American advantage is the laxity of the libel laws. Watergate would never have been exposed in Britain. Prime Minister Nixon would have sued the entire British press the moment it suggested that he was behind a "third-rate burglary".

The latest and greatest advantage of reporters here, after the First Amendment, is the weakness of the American class system. The British and French establishments believe that the lower, or governed classes have no business to inquire into the workings of government, and believe further that reporters who do so on their behalf are impertinent busybodies. In spite of all Mr Nixon's efforts, America still does not work like that.

Patrick Brogan

Rome

Italy's law on the press is mainly in evidence when irate readers write to newspapers alleging misrepresentation, and call for publication of their complaint under Article 8 which imposes on the editor the obligation to publish a genuine correction.

But the press is vulnerable in other ways. It is an extremely small industry. The circulation of the entire daily press is only about five million newspapers a day. The few journalists are regarded as a privileged class because of their high pay, early retiring age, and generous severance pay which are important considerations in a country lacking in many social services or an excellent arrangement for health insurance.

Newspaper proprietors are normally industrialists rather than publishers, and they are usually people who want to influence opinion: editorial opinion of their own newspaper, or chain of newspapers, and the wider field of national opinion. They also want to use their newspapers in the interests of individual politicians and other public personalities.

Journalists also have other worries. Quite apart from the *natural habit here of diffidence* towards powerful interests, journalists can get into trouble with the law. Group interests are protected by law, and under the existing code libel and defamation are penal questions not civil issues. Journalists have to be careful of the various forms of contempt with which they can be charged regarding such bodies as the presidency, the armed forces, the judiciary, the police, the Pope and others.

Lately, journalists themselves have begun to call for greater freedom both within the newspapers and in dealing with news. Editorial committees now claim the right to a say in the choice of a new editor. Earlier this year, the staff of *Il Messaggero* successfully prevented the appointment of Luigi Barzini as editor. The staff of *Il Giorno* went on strike because an article on the divorce referendum was not published. Journalists now frequently expect sub-editors to contact them before cutting their copy. This week two or three stoppages are expected because of differences arising from negotiation of a new collective contract.

Peter Nichols

The Hague

Freedom of the spoken and written word is written into the Dutch constitution. Further legislation concerning the structure of the Press is being prepared in the form of a "media Bill" which is still in committee stage. A complex radio and television law controls the eight (non-commercial) broadcasting companies who share the two television and three radio channels. The Dutch are so keen on the right to preserve freedom of expression for all major opinion groups that they manage to run more national daily papers than Britain for one-quarter of the population.

One objective of the new legislation is to develop a sound financial basis, in place of the present disguised subsidy in the form of a financial injection for most papers from a press fund, supplemented by "reorganization grants" from the Government for papers threatened with extinction.

The Dutch National Union of *Journalists* wants to see newspapers run on a non-profit making basis, in order to separate the press from commerce. Around 70 per cent of Holland's 4,500 journalists are members of the union. Most newspapers attain a level of between 90 and 100 per cent union membership among their editorial staffs. The union is extremely active and powerful.

Dutch company law places the responsibility for a paper as a business firmly with the management, but within the newspaper business it is generally accepted that management does not interfere with editorial policy. The editor is responsible for the content of the paper, and management is only called in if an editorial decision is liable to affect the running of the paper.

Wages and working conditions are specified in a collective working agreement, negotiated periodically between the union and the Association of Newspaper Proprietors (NDP). Neither has ever suggested a closed shop. The union chairman Max de Bok says that a closed shop would not be a direct threat to freedom of the press, but it would infringe another civil right, that of trade union organization. This right, de Bok says, also includes the right not to join a union. Compulsory union membership would be an infringement of personal freedom. In The Netherlands only the union for the graphical industry operates, since 1914, a closed shop for a limited sector of the trade.

The journalists' union is currently negotiating an editorial statute with the NDP. This would regulate consultation of the editorial staff on editorial appointments—particularly that of a new editor—and on important changes in newspaper policy, also in case of mergers or take-overs involving a change of newspaper ownership. Most editorial staffs already have far-reaching agreements giving them powers to take part in management decision and policy-making, and most papers have an editorial council which meets management representatives regularly to talk over existing and threatening conflicts.

Sue Masterman

Lord Chalfont

Why Labour cannot go on being all things to all men

In the debate on the defence review in the House of Lords last week, Lord Shinwell took me severely to task for suggesting *that the political institutions* of this country were under threat from internal extremism and subversion.

On the following day Mr Robert Mellish offered his resignation to the Prime Minister because more than 50 members of the Parliamentary Labour Party had voted against the Government after the defence debate in the Commons. These two events are not, as I shall now demonstrate, entirely unconnected.

When I left the Labour Party in September it was the pugnacious Mr Mellish, loyal as ever to Mr Wilson, who claimed, somewhat surprisingly, that he had forgotten that I was ever a member of a Labour government. His memory, however, might just be serviceable enough to remind him that one of the main reasons for my resignation was the growing domination and militancy of the left wing. Perhaps he might now begin to see what I had in mind. His 54 colleagues defied his three-line whip because the Government had presented a defence policy precisely in accordance with the manifesto upon which every Labour member of the House of Commons was elected last October—namely a policy designed to achieve "annual savings over a period on defence expenditure by Britain of several hundred million pounds".

They were not, of course, concerned that such cuts might weaken the security of the nation; their gesture was designed to indicate their displeasure with the Government for honouring its election manifesto—instead of obeying the instructions of the Labour Party conference to cut defence spending immediately by £1,000m—a proposal of such breathtaking fatuity that it can be explained in one of only two possible ways. Either those who concocted and voted for such a resolution know absolutely nothing about the realities of international affairs, which is very likely; or they are resolved to destroy the ability of this country to defend itself. It is, of course, possible that some *of them are both ignorant and* ill-intentioned—the one does not exclude the other, as a visit to any prison will readily demonstrate.

This whole affair underlines, in my view, a truth which has been emerging with increasing clarity over recent months. It is that the Labour Party cannot long survive in its present form—and, indeed, should not. This statement will, I confidently predict, be met with varying degrees of scorn and anger in "the movement"—its intensity growing as its point of origin moves to the left of the political spectrum. It will be said that any great political party is a coalition of interests, and that the Labour Party has lived through these left-right bloodbaths before and will do so again. Now these are valid arguments up to a point. But my proposition is that we have now passed the point at which it makes any real sense to describe as a single party an organization which contains on the one hand social democrats committed to a mixed-economy, free-enterprise political system and on the other hand Marxists dedicated to the abolition of the profit motive and the establishment of a state monopoly under workers' control. There seems to me to be something almost unbelievably bizarre in a party alignment in which "voting Labour" can mean putting a cross alongside the name of Mr Reg Prentice or Mr Harold Lever, with a fair chance that it will help to bring into being a government dominated by Mr Michael Foot and Mr Wedgwood Benn, *and bullied by* increasingly vocal and militant left-wing extremists.

The affair of the defence debate ought to have set warning signals flashing, not only in Mr Mellish's office but also in Transport House, and indeed throughout the whole of the political establishment. For if anything is certain in today's precarious world, it is that this is not the last of the Labour Party's convulsions, and certainly not the most serious. There is, for example, a growing tendency in pro-European circles in this country to regard the European Community battle as virtually won since Mr Wilson made his promise to commend the renegotiated terms to the electorate if they prove to be satisfactory. Anyone who believes that has a very low threshold of credulity. When Mr Callaghan eventually comes back with his package it will be seen to consist very largely of changes which would have been made anyway, in the normal course of Community development. It is going to take something very much more than that to keep Labour's anti-Europeans quietly trooping through the prescribed lobbies. And, of course, it hardly needs to be said, because it has already been said by some of those concerned, that if the battle should be won by the anti-marketeers, Mr Wilson will lose immediately a very substantial slice of his pro-European support.

Then there is the social contract, which Mr McGahey and others are single-mindedly engaged in shooting to ribbons. Sooner or later there will have *to be a stand-up fight over this*, and when it happens the Labour Party will be found to be irreconcilably divided. How could it be otherwise when the Government contains Mr Roy Jenkins and Mr Wedgwood Benn; when the Parliamentary Labour Party gives a home to Mr Cledwyn Hughes and Mr Ian Mikardo; and when the Trade Union wing of the movement has in its leadership not only Mr Joe Gormley but Mr Arthur Scargill as well? Now if the country were stable, prosperous and contented; and if the world were peaceful, calm and uncomplicated, all this might be regarded as the harmless eccentricity of a progressive party struggling with the realities of power. But the fact, of which an astonishing number of our citizens still seem almost hypnotically unaware, is that we are facing an appalling economic crisis and an unparalleled threat to the survival of our democratic institutions. (If you don't believe me, ask Mr James Callaghan, who said it loud and clear at a private meeting in Europe last week). We are *heading* for hyperinflation, or savage recession and massive unemployment—and quite possible all three—unless someone has the courage to warn the country frankly of the dangers and then to take whatever measures are necessary, however unpalatable, to deal with at least that part of the problem which is susceptible to government action. For if we do not avoid, or at least abate, the coming crisis, there will be dreadful strains upon our democratic institutions; and there are people in this country waiting patiently to exploit those strains and to destroy our existing political system. If Lord Shinwell, or anyone else, does not know that, it can only be because he does not believe what such people say and write themselves.

It is arguable that a party racked with internal conflict is in no condition to deal with a crisis of these dimensions. Indeed it is probably true that single party is at present stro enough to put into effect t policies which the situati demands. It is no longer simp a question of whether we shou have a coalition government, b rather of how soon we shou have one. A former Labo cabinet minister told me la week that he believed it w what a majority of people in t country now wanted, but that would not come about un there had been an open a fundamental split in the Labo Party. He also told me, som what magisterially, that any id of the emergence of a cen party, uniting social democr and discarding the extremists both wings was "politica unrealistic". If that is so, p haps what we need is a lit less political realism. There w a time when idealism w regarded as a powerful weap in a statesman's armoury. there exists in Britain a stat man with the courage to wie it, he should not, I suggest, w much longer; he may leave too late.

The Times Diary

Bridges and the nation's future

I have long had a mild obsession about the painting of London's bridges. I believe that a workable test of whether a city is worth living in is whether it takes the trouble to think up merry new colour schemes for its bridges from time to time, and I have always admired the Greater London Council's record in this respect.

It is particularly important in times of financial stringency, when local authorities are criticized by the mean-minded for incurring any expenditure which cannot be defined in rigid terms as essential.

The last time Vauxhall Bridge was painted—it must have been about eight years ago—I wrote an enthusiastic article in *The Sun*, for which I then worked. A whole column was devoted to the piece which had the headline: THANK YOU FOR PAINTING OUR BRIDGE. (*The Sun* would certainly not give a column to so unfleshly a subject nowadays, which is why it is more successful now than it was then.)

The colour they then chose for the bridge was pale blue, which was a good contrast to the rather grimy and nondescript appearance it had before. Last week, travelling on the top deck of my 77 bus, I noticed they were going over it again, but in the bolder colours which have since become fashionable.

It is being done in lush purple, yellow and white. One of the advantages of the new scheme is that the eight statues on the bridge's pillars, sculpted in 1908 by F. W. Pomeroy and A. Drury and representing the Arts and Sciences, now stand out far more boldly, dark against a white background. Formerly the statues, the only ones to grace a London bridge, could be seen properly only at night, when they are floodlit. (And already, I expect, some sourpuss is taking up his pen to write about the waste of electricity that involves.)

When I telephoned the GLC to chat about bridge-painting they boasted they were also doing the dingy Hungerford Bridge over in a fancy red pattern. Strictly, it is British Rail's job to paint Hungerford, but they never paint their bridges in anything but the most dreary colours.

On this occasion, however, they were persuaded to let the GLC choose a brighter colour scheme. They agreed only on condition that the Council paid the additional cost, and this they are doing.

More power to their paintbrushes, I say, and damn the expense. When we can no longer afford to paint our bridges gaily I shall know it is time to leave town.

Monumental

The present spirit of détente in Southern Africa is to be given concrete form in a monument to be built in the Orange Free State. The architects, two Pretoria brothers who have been awarded a £900 prize for their design, see it as a monument chiefly to a victory in 1836 by 60 Boers over 6,000 Matabele at Heilbron.

After the Boers' victory they found their cattle had been rustled by the fleeing tribesmen—and that is where the détente comes in: A Matabele named Moroko came to their aid and got some of the cattle back.

The monument, covering a 127-acre site, will be dominated by twin concrete towers symbolizing the hands of a man in prayer. From the towers, paths will lead to a garden commemorating men of the Matabele who died in the battle.

Underneath, to show too that the spirit of the laager is not dead either, underground shelters will be built. The monument is due to be opened on the Day of the Covenant next December — when Afrikaners celebrate the Battle of Blood River and their defeat of the Zulu armies.

Any publicity is good publicity. A school of seamanship has sent a press release announcing that, on its stand at the Boat Show after Christmas, Colonel John Brooks, star of the recent bottom-spanking case, will be taking a lesson in navigation, seamanship and emergency procedures.

Drunken women

More and more women in the United States and Canada are turning to Alcoholics Anonymous, according to a report from the organization to a conference in San Francisco. Women now make up 28 per cent of the membership, compared with 22 per cent in 1968.

The increase is only partly due to more drinking by women, however. Dr John Norris, chairman of the board of Alcoholics Anonymous, said women now felt less inhibited about admitting to alcoholism. "Because of changing social customs, it's less of a disgrace", he said.

Dr Norris conceded that there is also more drinking, though. "When I was growing up, the acceptable social drink for women was tea", he said. "Now it's cocktails." Other participants spoke of the greater pressure on women who go to work.

Cymbelism

I went to see the Royal Shakespeare Company's *Cymbeline* at the weekend. It purports to be by William Shakespeare but my own belief is that it is a highly political spoof relating to British membership of the European Community, probably written by Roy Jenkins.

For purposes of analysis you can ignore the main plot, a highly exaggerated Shakespearian pastiche, packed with mistaken identities, long-lost relatives and a heroine who dresses as a man. It is the subplot which packs the political punch.

Here Cymbeline, ruler of England (ie, Harold Wilson), declines to pay tribute to Rome (ie, Brussels) and is encouraged in this perversity by his evil wife (Peter Shore), anxious to increase Cymbeline's and thus her own power. When the Romans will not accept this there is a war (referendum) which, by accidental fortune and to his surprise as much as anyone's, Cymbeline wins.

So Britain stays unfettered. But this is where Jenkins plays his master stroke. Having won his referendum, Wilson *decides he will pay tribute to Brussels anyway.* Shakespeare himself could not have devised a happier ending.

Christmas carollers in Camberwell are exerting unseasonal pressure on people reluctant to open their doors to them. A colleague reports that after singing a few words of We wish you a merry Christmas *in flat voices outside her door, and receiving no reaction, the group sang it again but changed the words to "We won't go until you pay us". When this did not produce results, they gave the door a kick and gave up.*

Self-interest

I have noticed a growing tendency of journalists to exploit their access to the media for the pursuance of causes relating to their self-interest. Newspaper editors, for example,

have been devoting space to the defence of their own freedom of action against a hypothetical threat posed by the new legislation on trade unions.

Moreover, self-employed and by no means needy writers have been fuming quite uncontrollably about having to pay higher insurance contributions. The self-employed Alan Watkins has devoted two of his new full-page columns, in the *Evening Standard* to this topic, thou it is far removed from t subject of life in London whi I thought was supposed to his theme.

I have been waiting for som one to do something insuppo able to the rights of Dia writers, so that I can follow t trend and pour on the vitri But nobody has—I suppose are not important enoug Indeed, on those (fortunate few) days when I lack inspi tion, I should, unlike worried editors, welcome structions from the Nation Union of Journalists, or anyo about what to write.

E. B. Rimmington of Nottin ham has found the follo seasonal snippet in the Notti ham Journal of December 1855. "We understand that Robert Feast has prepared shipped . . . some 2,000 pl puddings for the army the East, the whole of whi will have ample time to arri before Xmas. The puddings tended for the officers are the very best materials. those for the men but little ferior. They are contained in a hermetically sealed tin ca in two wrappers, the inner serving to reboil the puddi in, and the outer, if the atta ing party be in want of a tab cloth, to eat on."

PH

هكذا من الأصل

TIMES PAST THE TIMES
New Printing House Square, London, WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

DEAD DUCK

ecision of Mr Anthony ood Benn to make a £3.9m) the Kirkby cooperative ace of implacable opposi- om his industrial advisers vide and important issues. questions of government industry commercial logic be tempered by political cial considerations. In a atic society it is right that hould be so. It would be able if the question of help our most disadvantaged rial areas were to be made with a balance sheet and e rule, with no attention paid, for example, to ons of maintaining employ- The success, such as it is, r system of industrial aid ds upon a sensible balance reached between the trial and social factors ved.

part of this system the stry Act, 1972, set up the strial Development Advisory d, a group of experienced strialists and trade unionists vise the Secretary of State elective financial assistance ndustry. *In a public state-* on its role the board has gnized that in considering osals put to it for advice the of government finance can- be viewed under strictly com- cial criteria. Where possible, the board, it has given the efit of the doubt to schemes ch showed a prospect of ieving viability, albeit on a escale longer than would be nanded on a commercial gment.

That said, the board is not e to usurp the decision-tak- power of the Government, would its members, sepa- ely or collectively, claim any ecial expertise in social problems. The board's primary duty is to analyse objectively the industrial parameters of the problems put before it.

It is noteworthy that in the other recent instances where the board's advice has not been taken by the Government—the Meriden and Scottish Daily Express cooperatives — the board has chosen to remain silent. Only in the case of Kirkby has it availed itself of the right under Section 9(4) of the Industry Act to have a statement laid before the House of Commons outlining its views. The clear implication to be drawn from this is that while the board may have felt that on balance Meriden and the Scottish newspaper were not suitable candidates for aid, it recognized that it had no monopoly of wisdom and that the political judgment of Mr Benn must, where there was a difference of opinion, be allowed to take precedence.

In the case of Kirkby the board has requested a section 9 statement because it believes that the Government's judgment on the issue is not simply open to question, as in Meriden and the Scottish Daily Express, but totally and demonstrably wrong. Kirkby, the board believes, is not merely a lame duck; it is a dead duck into which neither the political will of Mr Benn nor the determination of the Kirkby workers will be able to breathe any life.

Several questions must be answered by Mr Benn. First, are there any positive alternatives to the Kirkby plan? Is it right to place nearly £4m of public money, the jobs of the Kirkby community and in some cases the workforce's private resources on what is by any measure a very high risk venture? Could not the £4m be spent in the area in some other way which would give greater long-term assurance of work to the Kirkby employees?

Second, how much money is there in the public purse for the support of such projects, and by what system of priorities are requests for aid of this nature to be judged? We are only at the beginning of the industrial crisis. By what yardstick, other than the determination of those who choose to stage a sit-in, are we to judge the merits or demerits of future Kirkbys?

Finally, why, in a matter of such deep public interest, did Mr Benn wait until the dying hours of the last day of Parliament before the Christmas recess to allow the Industrial Development Advisory Board their right to have a statement laid before the House? The Secretary of State presents himself as one of the leading champions of the man in the street and on the shop floor. Is his action in delaying the statement and therefore introducing the danger that public debate may be curtailed consistent with this attitude?

The decision to back Kirkby is Mr Benn's. He has stated: "We are trying to think afresh about the capacity of workers to resolve their own industrial problems and to create a viable enterprise. That is what the workers' cooperative is aiming to do." Mr Benn is right to keep an open mind on how the workforce can be brought into solving the problems of industry, whether it be by participation on the board, or the more radical idea of the cooperative. But even for his own purposes he could surely have chosen a better vehicle for the cooperative idea than this, which has all the odds stacked against it.

RANCE'S OIL DIPLOMACY

he prescoce of M Chirac in eheran and of M Sauvagnargues i Cairo at the weekend serves o emphasize the great impor- e which France still attaches o her relations with the Middle East, both economic and politi- cal. *The two aspects* are never far apart in French minds, but clearly in Teheran the main emphasis will have been economic, while in Cairo it is likely *to have been political.*

France's economic objectives in the Middle East are much the same as those of other Western countries: to ensure the continuity of her oil supplies, to pay for them by exporting as much as possible to the oil producers, and to ensure a reduction of the oil price in real terms—that is, to dissuade the producers from raising prices to keep pace with inflation in the West by convincing them that such a policy will make the West's economic problems insoluble. (Unlike some other consumers, France has never believed it realistic to hope for a price reduction in money terms, and it seems that her opinion on this point is now generally shared.)

If France's pursuit of these objectives is surrounded with a greater aura of success than that of other Western countries, that is partly because she recognized the area's importance earlier than most, partly because of the flamboyant style with which her rulers are given to conducting diplomacy, and partly because she has shown *great single-mindedness* in linking her political position to her economic interests.

The phrase "aura of success" is worth emphasizing, because a precise profit-and-loss account of French success is very hard to draw up. During the oil cutbacks of last winter, France was not noticeably better off than other West European countries. In the course of this year a series of bilateral trade agreements have been announced with great fanfares after visits of French politicians to producer countries or of Middle Eastern rulers to France. But often such agreements have later turned out to be less advantageous than had been claimed, or even to have been based on a misunderstanding, as in the case of M Chirac's claim that Iran had confirmed its options to buy Concorde after the Shah's state visit to France in June.

As for the oil price, France is so far no better or worse off than the rest of us. Where she has been successful, at any rate until lately, is in convincing the producers that she has a more reasonable attitude on this question than some other consumer countries, notably the United States. But she now stands implicitly accused by the Shah of *trying to deprive the oil producers* of their just price by revaluing the gold reserves held by the Bank of France and other Western central banks. What had been seen in Europe as a praiseworthy attempt to bring the make-believe world of central bankers into line with the realities of the international gold market appears to oil producers as yet another dishonest scheme by spend-thrift Western governments to avoid earning the money with which they pay their bills.

This apparently technical squabble is in fact the expression of a trial of strength between two sets of monopolists—organized labour in the West and the oil-producers' cartel—each of which demands a larger share of the world's resources in return for what it produces. Such is the true conflict of interest which the projected conference between oil producers and consumers will have to try and resolve, with the Third World countries pleading desperately that it be resolved to their benefit and not at their expense.

David Wood

Mr Short strips the Christmas tree

The day after an economic debate in which the Chancellor of the Exchequer said last week that next year the people would have to be fitter because they assuredly would not be fatter, Mr Short, Leader of the House, assembled the Commons round the glittering Christmas tree and distributed the presents. The tree was loaded as never before with good things.

Members' salaries, he announced, would be referred to the saintly Edward Boyle and the choir of angels who form his Review Body on Top Salaries. A select committee would be established to examine how the taxpayer could foot the bill for providing research assistance for backbenchers. About £200,000 a year would be made available to opposition parties to finance their expenses at Westminster. And an independent committee would explore ways for the taxpayer "to assist political parties in carrying out their functions outside Parliament".

Mr Short will never come closer to having a grateful House placing a commemorative statue in the Members' Lobby, somewhere near the Churchill arch, the choicest place of honour. There was a comely embarrassment, of course, here and there as backbenchers rose to whisper "Thank you, Santa" and a faint blush on cheeks grown wan in late-night sittings. Only two backbenchers misbehaved, as some children will at the best of Christmas parties. Mrs Audrey Wise, a Labour housewife from Coventry, did not want her present if her constituents could not have one too. Mr Enoch Powell, who after 34 years away from his Chair has not forgotten the importance of distrusting Greeks bearing gifts, immediately tore open the gift wrapping, found something he thought questionable, and said the House should debate the Christmas tree and what Mr Short was up to.

Mr Powell was right. It is one thing to ask the Boyle committee to restore the value of MPs' salaries after three years of the inflation that collectively they have helped to create. It is a wholly different thing to prepare the way for the taxpayer to pay the bills for research staffs that will do little more than puff up the self-importance of backbenchers, or for the activities of the parties outside Westminster.

Let me deal with the items in the package one by one. First, members' pay. There is no doubt that MPs are underpaid at a salary of £4,500, whether the test is the debts or te overdrafts some of tem say they have to run, or comparisons with what legislators in virtually all other Western countries, large and small, are paid. True, not all MPs work full time at Westminster. True, there is a respectable argument that MPs should not be encouraged to divorce themselves from life outside by becoming full-time legislators. True, some MPs find that membership of the House of itself opens the way to directorships, consultancies, public relations, or journalism. Yet the House could not work unless more than half its members gave their days and nights to its business. They are worthy of their hire.

That agreed, it must be added that in the past four or five years they have provided themselves with some very attractive tax-free benefits wich some members now regard as more worthwhile than a direct increase in salary: car allowance; secretarial and research allowance; subsistence allowance (for keeping two homes going); and London supplement. Nowadays the £4,500 is real spending money. But it still compares with a low grade in the Civil Service. It should be raised.

Moved by the seasonable spirit, I should like to smile also on the proposal (it is no more than that yet) for members to have more research help than is now available to them at the taxpayers' expense. The House of Commons already has an enlarged and admirable library and research staff, complete with cuttings and reports services; and its select committees increasingly have specialist advisers. Each member who knows his trade can use parliamentary written questions to elicit, through departments, the information he needs for the half dozen speeches he is likely to make in the Chamber during any one year.

A backbencher who needs any more research facilities than he already has is either indolent or a pompous empire builder.

The kindred proposal for an outlay from the public purse of about £200,000 a year for the logistic support of opposition parties in both Houses is far less exceptionable. With a maximum of £150,000 to the main opposition party, the formula would be based on £500 for each seat in the Commons and £1 for every 200 votes. It is a matter of gossip that in opposition Mr Wilson had to staff his office at his own expense, up to a figure of probably £20,000 a year; and Mr Heath and Mr Thorpe today have ludicrously inadequate logistic support. Since in a parliamentary system opposition parties are as essential as a government party, they should be provided with the means of functioning efficiently, though on condition that all public money is publicly accounted for.

Finally, and most controversially, there is the proposal that the taxpayer, without a by-your-leave, should subsidize the activities of the parties outside Westminster "in the interests of parliamentary democracy". Why should he? Well, after two general elections all the parties are broke, and continue dependent on big business, the trade unions, wealthy benefactors, small subscriptions, raffles, football sweeps, and all the rest. In West Germany the parties have had support from public funds since 1959: and after a modest beginning appetites have grown by what they feed on and the subsidies now represent a third of party budgets, or a total bill today of about £45m for a period of four years. In Sweden, since 1966, more than £7m a year of subsidy goes to general party activities, party offices, and party newspapers. In Italy the party subsidies run out at about £30m annually.

British parties may be bankrupt or may be financially constrained from doing what a democracy needs to have done to sustain it in vigorous life. But here is a change so very fundamental that it demands the most searching scrutiny before the taxpayer is required to underpin as much the parties he loathes as the party he loves.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Tax exemptions for charities

From Sir Philip Allen

Sir, As Chairman of the National Council of Social Service representing some 180 national charities and over 8,000 local ones, and after consulting other interested voluntary organizations, I write to express our grave concern about the provisions in the recently published Finance Bill dealing with charities and Capital Transfer tax. There is one proposal in particular on which I should like to comment in your columns.

The White Paper on this tax stated that the scale of exemption for charities under it "will not be less generous than it is at present for Estate Duty purposes". But we do *not think that this has been* achieved. The Finance Bill provides for the total amount over £50,000 given to charities by an individual during his lifetime to be taxed at half-rate; whereas under the arrangements which the Finance Bill replaces, sums of up to £50,000 left to a charity by will were free of estate duty, and in addition capital gifts *inter-vivos* up to any amount were tax free. (Both under the old legislation and under the Bill, the concessions do not apply if the gift is made within one year of death.)

There can be no doubt that this new provision worsens the position for charities. It would seriously discourage the creation of new *charitable trusts; and it would penalize* any large gifts to existing charities.

Successive governments have encouraged the flow of private money to charities by granting tax concessions. It seems ironic that this policy should be changed at the very time that charities, hard hit by inflation, are having to consider reducing their activities and when there is an even greater need for voluntary service in the community generally.

Yours faithfully,
PHILIP ALLEN, Chairman,
The National Council of Social Service,
26 Bedford Square, WC1.

Dyslexic children

From Professor O. L. Zangwill

Sir, Caroline Moorehead's article on dyslexia and reading problems (December 9) provides an admirably balanced account of contemporary views about backwardness in reading and its management. Yet to say that there is "a continuum spanning the whole range of reading disabilities, from fluent readers to those with severe difficulties", while it may well be true, is hardly helpful.

Those who hold such a view *appear to have been impressed by* the large number of factors which, alone or in combination, appear to contribute to backwardness in reading, and by the failure to date to link any particular grade or kind of such backwardness with any particular factor or combination of factors. Yet it must be borne in mind that very diverse physical illnesses may produce identical symptoms, for example malaise and fever, and there is a sense in which illness *per se* might be said to form a continuum from the mildest to the most severe afflictions. But this would hardly help us to understand their respective aetiologies and so provide a rationale for treatment.

*In the case of reading backward*ness, there is now a great deal of evidence suggesting that in a certain proportion of children so affected, there is a history of slow acquisition of language, difficulty in coordinating speech sounds with appropriate visual symbols and excessive difficulty in learning to spell. This difficulty, which affects boys much more often than girls and not uncommonly runs in families, suggests that heredity may play some part in its origin. In other cases, it is clearly secondary to minor damage to the brain sustained at birth or in early infancy.

It is to this condition that the term dyslexia is properly applied and which serves to mark it off from backwardness in reading due to poor intelligence, lack of educational opportunity or emotional disorder, the effects of which, so far as progress at school is concerned, may differ little, if at all, from those of dyslexia. None the less those afflicted by dyslexia can properly be said to sustain a genuine handicap, even though this presents at the psychological and educational rather than at the physical level. It merits sympathy and concern, no less than greatly increased research into its origin, nature and—above all—remedial treatment.

Yours faithfully,
O. L. ZANGWILL,
Professor of Experimental Psychology
University of Cambridge.
The Psychological Laboratory,
Downing Street,
Cambridge.
December 12.

Westminster Cathedral choir

From the Master of Music at Westminster Cathedral

Sir, I would welcome an opportunity to establish the facts about the choir of Westminster Cathedral. The choir school is supported partly by the Diocese of Westminster, and partly by the fees of parents. The men's choir is financed by the Cathedral.

Although there is no intention of closing the choir school, all the men of the choir are under three months' notice. If this is carried out, it will mean the end of the Cathedral's musical tradition.

The men's choir consists of seven professional choristers, each paid £1,200 per annum. Because of inflation, they have asked for this to be increased to £1,380. If this were granted, the total expenditure on the men's choir would be £9,660 per annum.

There is a possibility of launching *a national appeal for the Cathedral* in two years' time. This means that keeping the men's choir intact until then would involve finding £20,000 over a two year period. Surely, this is not a great sum of money?

Yours faithfully,
COLIN MAWBY,
Westminster Cathedral,
42 Francis Street, SW1.
December 21.

Britain and the Middle East

From the President of the Board of Deputies of British Jews

Sir, Bernard Levin has missed the point (article, December 17). The Board of Deputies is campaigning to preserve the freedom of the Jewish community—and indirectly that of all other minority groups—not to be slandered in advertisements such as that which we have referred to the Race Relations Board and to the Attorney General.

Even advertisers have themselves long recognized that they must comply with basic standards of morality and accuracy. Newspapers—such as your own—frequently refuse advertisements which they regard as not achieving those standards, or accept such advertisements only if altered. This is rightly regarded as necessary in the public interest and not as a "restriction on freedom of speech". Indeed, the Trade Descriptions Act imposes a basic responsibility on media for advertisements carried by them. Is this "censorship"?

For the Jewish community, the protection of its good name is of *infinitely greater worth* than the goods and services included in the Trade Descriptions Act. If the Race Relations Act does not cover the case of the scurrilous, racialist advertisement, it must be amended. If the Attorney General turns out to have no power to deal with disgraceful immoral advertisements, such as that placed by the so-called "Committee for Justice in the Middle East", such powers should be given to him—not so as to restrict genuine, decent freedom of speech; not so as to impose censorship; but in order to prevent the abuse of freedom, so as to destroy it.

Finally, the letter from Dr Mehdi (December 19), who has lifted a corner of the blanket of anonymity which has so far cloaked his committee—and who *are* its members?

He writes that the gist of what the advertisement is trying to say is that "British Jewry"—not, please note, British Zionists, who (happily) include large numbers of British non-Jews—"is financing indiscriminate bombing of refugees under the guise of charity and at the expense of the Inland Revenue". That is precisely the anti-Jewish slander which my board considers should not have been carried in your paper.

Yours faithfully,
FISHER OF CAMDEN,
Woburn House,
Upper Woburn Place, WC1.
December 20.

From Mr Mohammad Tarbush

Sir, Your favourable comments about the Jewish people in general, and the Israelis in particular (*The Times* leader, December 14), would be more honourable if they were not made at the expense of the Palestinians. It is difficult to see how anyone taking an objective view of the Middle East conflict could deny that it is we, the Palestinians, who have on balance suffered the greater injustice.

The fact that you so frankly state that you do not subscribe to this school of thought can only be explained by the fact that the Israelis, as your leader states, are a people for whom you have a special regard, just as you do for the French, whereas by implication the Palestinians are not, and an infringement of the political and civil rights of the Palestinians is presumably therefore neither here *nor there. Thus you defend The Times* against the unjustified accusation that it accepted an advertisement which might instigate racial hatred by presenting a defence which itself gives the Palestinians as strong a case as any for feeling run down on racial grounds.

The Palestinian Arabs, sir, are no barbarians. They are a civilized people whose ancestors carried the torch of civilization long before Europe evolved its now commendable and noble values. Paradoxically our contacts with Europe, first with the Crusades, then with the British mandate and then as a result with the Zionist movement, have hardly contributed to our cherished standards of morality.

Since the invasion of our homeland by the Zionist movement we have been steadily pushed into committing acts which we would have previously unequivocally condemned. For in Palestine, the Jewish people, often great makers of history, have refused to learn their lesson from it, and have accepted to apply persecution in its crudest forms against the Palestinians. The true friends of the Jewish people would be those who had the courage to tell them that Zionism is wrong, very wrong, and that now is the time for abandoning it.

Yours sincerely,
MOHAMMAD TARBUSH,
c/o Box 236/1163, American University, Beirut.

From Mr Jon Kimche

Sir, May I draw the attention of Dr Mehdi and his Committee to a *genuine and glaring case of* Middle Eastern injustice to which they might devote their next planned advertisement?

According to the Annual Report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East the total amount which the Agency has received (and spent) in the 25 years from 1950 to 1974 to feed and educate the Palestine Refugees in its care is $925m. In these 25 years $25m out of the $925m has been contributed by all the Arab States.

During the same period the United States contributed $570m, the United Kingdom $135m, Canada $32m, West Germany $26m, Sweden $23m, France $21m and Israel $5m.

The contribution of the opulent oil producing countries to the well-being of their unfortunate Palestinian brethren was of a somewhat different dimension. Over these 25 years Saudi Arabia subscribed $5m, Kuwait $4m, Abu Dhabi $¾m, Bahrein $400,000, Iraq $900,000 and Libya $1m. Of the not-so-fortunate Arab States, the Lebanon contributed $1m, Syria $2m and Egypt, while Nasser was alive, $5½m. Since President Sadat took over, Egypt has made no contribution to the relief of the Palestine Refugee Fund of the UN. The Soviet Union and the Soviet Block countries, excepting Romania, have not contributed at all.

Dr Mehdi and his associates should have no difficulty in placing an advertisement drawing attention to the glaring contradiction between the Western and the Arab contribution to the well-being of the Palestine Refugees and to their respective response to the annual desperate appeal for funds—the latest one only a few days ago—from the UN Commissioner-General, though they might have some trouble in having the advertisement published in Egypt or Saudi Arabia or Libya or Syria. But then is this not the season for taking note of "the beam that is in thine own eye"?

Yours faithfully,
JON KIMCHE,
Camilla Lacey Lodge,
Westhumble, Dorking.
Surrey.
December 19.

Legal education

From Professor C. F. Parker

Sir, Your Legal Correspondent finds it difficult to be optimistic as to the will and the ability of the legal profession to adapt itself to the changing needs of our society which have been so expertly and so forcibly stated by Sir Leslie Scarman in his *recent Hamlyn lectures.*

At the end of his last lecture, Sir Leslie addressed himself in particular to the subject of legal education, "the key to the survival of the rule of law as a living and socially relevant force". It may therefore be of interest, and of some comfort, to know that the university law schools, which are in fact supplying a substantial majority of entrants into both branches of the practising profession, are already meeting this challenge, both by embracing and developing new fields of law within their curricula and by reviewing the traditional fields in the light of recent and continuing social, political and economic change.

All the fields of law mentioned by Sir Leslie as being of current significance have been the subject of study by so-called "academic" lawyers. To mention two specifically, industrial relations were the theme of another masterly series of Hamlyn lectures given by Professor Kahn-Freund in 1972, while it was my own Faculty in Exeter which, thanks to the vision and industry of some of my colleagues, pioneered courses on the law of the European Economic Community.

No doubt, as graduates who have received the benefits of such a wider and more enlightened legal education enter the practising branches of the profession, we shall see *a greater adaptability developing* within those branches which may well enable them to rise to the challenge of which Sir Leslie has spoken and so secure the survival of our legal system.

Meanwhile it is distressing, to say the least, to many university law teachers that the contribution which they are making to legal education receives such half-hearted acknowledgment from so many members of *the Bar and of the Law Society.* Indeed, the virtues of a Law degree seem to be more readily acknowledged by prospective employers outside the legal profession, as involving a rigorous intellectual discipline working through relevant contemporary material, than by the members of the profession itself.

Neither branch of the profession is willing to make a law degree compulsory for future members, although this is regarded as a matter of course in European countries and in the United States, while there is an extraordinary coyness about even recognising a Law degree as the normal method of entry into legal practice, despite the fact, as has already been stated, that this is already the de facto position.

Small wonder then that the high hopes engendered by the Ormrod Committee Report in 1971 for genuine cooperation between the practising and academic branches of the profession have gradually dwindled, but cooperation there must be if Sir Leslie's gloomy forecast is to be disproved.

I am, Sir,
Yours faithfully,
C. F. PARKER, President,
The Society of Public Teachers of Law,
Amory Building,
Rennes Drive,
Exeter.
December 16.

Public lending right

From Sir Robert Lusty

Sir, What a pity it is that Mr Bunting's opposition to the Public Lending Right should be couched in such intemperate terms (December 17). There are too many warring factions in the world of today without inventing others.

Mr Bunting is entitled to his views on the Public Lending Right which most regard as a simple matter of justice which it is none the less necessary to correct even should the means of doing so appear involved and complicated.

But Mr Bunting should not refer to a "system which leaves authors at the mercy of their publishers". No author is at the mercy of his publisher, and no publisher known to me would willingly publish for an author who believes this to be true. Publishing, if it is anything, is a unique adventure in collaboration and cooperation with the common and identical purpose of getting across to as many as possible what it is that the author wishes to say.

There may sometimes be a divergence of views as frequently there is between the closest of allies. There can be no divergence of purpose. The author, if dissatisfied, has on call the requirements of some hundreds of competing publishers, and if among them he cannot find one with whom he can feel on terms or equal partnership it is not, I suggest, the system which is wrong. It could be Mr Bunting and his manuscript.

The world today talks too much of the things which divide it. If only at this time of year, it is worth reflecting on the things which unite it.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT LUSTY
The Old Silk Mill.
Blockley,
Moreton-in-Marsh,
Gloucestershire.

Electing a Tory leader

From Mr Chris Gent

Sir, To those Conservatives like myself who have been striving to make the party more open and democratic the new system for selecting the leader comes as no surprise. Like many other aspects of the party's organization the proposals are cumbersome and fundamentally undemocratic.

Undemocratic because even if a candidate achieves an overall majority on the first ballot a second vote is mandatory. Unfair because at the second ballot fresh candidates can present themselves, thereby ensuring that MPs never have a full range of choice from which to make a decision. The infighting and tactical voting this system encourages can only make a public spectacle of the party.

Cumbersome because after these two ballots a third vote may well be necessary, and then there must be an endorsement from the Lords and national union as well, before a new leader is confirmed. It would be hard to design a system better suited to project the party's disarray to the voting public. The hiatus created by these ballots will give the media an ideal opportunity to exploit the divisions which must be created within the party.

A far more simple, efficient and democratic system would be to have one vote based on the transferable vote system at present recommended for the third ballot. One thing is certain, that unless the proposals are drastically amended the special committee will soon be sitting again to design a more soundly based and enduring system.

Yours sincerely,
CHRIS GENT, Chairman,
Greater London Young Conservatives,
32 Smith Square, SW1.
December 19.

From Mr Douglas Ives

Sir, "Many Tory backbenchers", writes your Political Editor, "are saying privately that the leadership dispute is inflicting unnecessary damage on Mr Heath and the party".

What a great pity they have not been saying it publicly.

Yours faithfully,
DOUGLAS IVES,
The Bath Club,
43 Brook Street, W1.
December 18.

Jailed pickets

From Mr H. Justin Evans

Sir, Mr Len Murray's indignation at the so-called victimization of the jailed pickets would be more convincing if he showed signs of having read the court evidence that led to their conviction. In view of the behaviour of the men concerned, it would seem more appropriate if the TUC were to use their influence to see that men guilty of such conduct should be expelled from trade union membership, not represented as martyrs in the cause of freedom.

Yours faithfully,
H. JUSTIN EVANS,
Glebe House,
Church Stretton,
Salop.
December 19.

Saving electricity

From Mr K. I. Meldrum

Sir, A means of economizing in the use of electricity by using sodium lamps has been advocated (*The Times*, Monday, December 16). Other perhaps even more obvious means are available.

The lighting of Albert Bridge to produce an effect which would not be out of place in Battersea Park or Blackpool Promenade is not only a waste of power but an affront to the artistic opportunities that discreet lighting can offer. By removing the strings of light bulbs but retaining the interior illumination on the pillars not only would there be a significant saving in electricity but the night time appearance of the bridge would be appreciably enhanced.

A particularly ironic waste of electricity can be seen, only too obviously, in the garish over illumination of the GLC offices. The subtle lighting of Westminster Abbey and the Houses of Parliament, by contrast, show how carefully planned lighting can improve an environment.

Yours faithfully,
K. I. MELDRUM,
The Old Bulls Head,
Buxworth,
Derbyshire.
December 16.

Queen's English

From Mr Dominick Harrod

Sir, As we peer from our side of the barricades in apprehension wondering which of our number will next fall victim to the shafts of your contributor Mr Levin, it suddenly becomes apparent that our mentor in the matter of broadcasting English is not one, but several.

Else how could Mr Levin report *today offences against his sensibilities simultaneously* broadcast on BBC Radio 4, *The World Tonight*, and on *The News at Ten* both on December 11.

Perhaps Mr Levin has developed stereophonic ears, the better to appreciate his beloved W——, and to monitor our lapses on several channels at once.

Unfortunately his vision does not match his hearing. Otherwise I am sure he would not have committed, in the public prints, the illiteracy of mis-spelling

Yours etc,
DOMINICK HARROD,
British Broadcasting Corporation,
Broadcasting House, W1.
December 19.

From Mr Reginald Bosanquet

Sir, Service message to one B. Levin: get the to a nunnery.

Yours faithfully,
REGINALD BOSANQUET,
1 King's House,
396 King's Road, SW10.
December 20.

COURT CIRCULAR

WINDSOR CASTLE
December 22: The Duke of Edinburgh has arrived at Windsor Castle.

The Duke of Gloucester will open an exhibition to celebrate the sixtieth anniversary of the Design and Industries Association at the Design Centre, Haymarket, on January 13.

Birthdays today

Vice-Admiral Sir Stephen Carlill, 72; Mr A. E. R. Gilligan, 80; Sir Noel Hall, 72; Sir Frederick Leggett, 90; Brigadier Sir Geoffrey Macnab, 75; Sir Laurence Menzies, 68; Miss J. M. Quennell, 51; Mrs William Temple, 84.

Forthcoming marriages

The Hon Patrick O'Neill and Miss A. Lillecrappe
A marriage has been arranged between Patrick, son of Lord and Lady O'Neill of the Maine, and Anne, daughter of Mr and Mrs Lillecrappe, of Adelaide, South Australia, and will take place in Adelaide in March, 1975.

Mr F. D. Burgoyne and Miss N. R. Stewart
The engagement is announced between Derek, son of Mr and Mrs F. L. Burgoyne, of 1 Mount Eden Park, Belfast, and Nina Rose, daughter of Brigadier and Mrs V. M. Stewart, of The Crescent, Ardglass, co Down.

Mr H. C. Combe and Miss I. Andersen
The engagement is announced between Henry Cecil, younger son of the late Captain R. T. Combe and Mrs Combe, of Earnshill, Hambridge, Langport, Somerset, and Ingerlise, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Holger Andersen, of Slagelse, Denmark.

Mr P. R. Houchin and Miss J. Davis
The engagement is announced between Peter, son of Mr and Mrs E. W. Houchin, of Hinxhill, Ashford, Kent, and Janet, daughter of Sir John Davis, of Crowhurst Place, Surrey, and Mrs Marion Davis, of Pembroke Place, London.

Mr M. J. March and Miss E. M. Pitkeathly
The engagement is announced between James, son of Mrs M. C. March and the late I. G. R. March, of 6 Prince's House, Kensington Park Road, London, and Elizabeth, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs A. H. Pitkeathly, of Harrow, Middlesex.

Marriages

Mr R. N. Browne and Miss C. A. Ferris
The marriage took place on Saturday at St Milburga's, Beckbury, Salop, of Mr Rupert Nicholas Browne, elder son of Sir Humphrey Browne, of Beckbury Hall, Shifnal, Salop, and the late Lady Browne, and Miss Carol-Ann Ferris, daughter of Mr C. R. Ferris and of Mrs G. Ferris, of London. The Rev R. P. Baggaley officiated.
The bride, who was given in marriage by Mr Earle Murray, wore a Victorian-style gown of cream voile and silk, a lace cap and an antique family veil of Brussels lace. Patricia and Jenifer Wynn attended her, and Mr Piers Browne was best man to his brother.
A reception was held at Beckbury Hall.

Mr J. W. Miller and Miss C. M. Ward
The marriage took place in London on December 20 between Mr Jeremy Wightman Miller, younger son of Brigadier and Mrs E. G. Miller, of Rudgwick, Sussex, and Miss Christine Mary Ward, only daughter of Mr and Mrs G. Ward, of Bristol.

Today's engagements

British Library's Milton Tercentenary Exhibition, the British Museum, 10-5.
Exhibition: Dolls: A study of their history and development 1750-1970, Bethnal Green Museum, Cambridge Heath Road, 10-6.
Exhibition: The Athapaskans, strangers of the north, Royal Scottish Museum, Chambers Street, Edinburgh, 10-5.
Carol Concert by Metropolitan Police Band, Nave, Westminster Abbey, 12.30-2.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:
Professor P. N. S. Mansergh and Professor Charles Wilson are reappointed members of the Advisory Council on Public Records. Professor J. C. Holt to be a member of the council in place of Sir Roy Allen, who has retired.
Mr N. E. O. Smith to be joint registrar of the Leicester group of county courts, and joint district registrar of the High Court at Leicester from January 1.

£50,000 winner

The weekly £50,000 Premium Savings Bond prize, announced on Saturday, was won by bond number 4 QL 457027. The winner lives in Islington, London. The 25 £1,000 winners are:

AS 316480	8 LK 779303	3 WP 980950
CB 359313	6 MB 953796	4 WP 802524
CN 890681	2 NF 193588	6 WS 247953
CL 606997	7 PB 419545	5 YB 298099
CS 311278	7 PZ 335673	8 YP 694453
FK 767607	4 QP 549249	10 YF 157763
JN 162995	OW 114507	4 ZZ 815544
LN 491431	RS 292842	
LL 477583	9 RL 279729	

Photograph by Akhtar Hussein

Three studies of Mr Heath, Leader of the Opposition, conducting a carol concert in his home town of Broadstairs, Kent, yesterday: a tradition that started while he was an undergraduate at Oxford.

Sanctity of family life is Islam's great asset

By Clifford Longley
Religious Affairs Correspondent

The prophets of doom who predict the disintegration of family life in the Western world have yet to see their words fulfilled, even if the ever-increasing rate of marital breakdown appears to bear them out so far.

The collapse of a generally agreed framework of fixed values for family life and sexual morality undoubtedly strengthens these pessimists' case, if only because the present generation of families has inherited a set of expectations based on religious principles which are now widely questioned.

Though so-called Christian family life is under intolerable strain, Islamic family life appears better designed to stand up to contemporary pressures. It is based on a detailed and rigid set of rules about interpersonal relationships. The Islamic family is therefore held together by more than the social conventions and childhood conditioning that maintain Western family life.

Islam is numerically the second largest religion in Europe, and numbers its adherents in the British Isles in hundreds of thousands. Nevertheless, the Islamic way of family life is largely misunderstood in Britain, even by those such as teachers who come into daily contact with it.

The values of the Islamic family code are strikingly close to Christian values. Even such better known features of Islamic culture as the attitudes to polygamy and divorce can be understood as alternative ways of reaching the same end: a secure interdependence and a caring community of love. Long before the law of England adopted it, the Islamic law specified irretrievable breakdown as ground for divorce. Before divorce is invoked, the law demands an attempt at reconciliation; again, as now in English civil law. Islamic scholars are also able to defend polygamy by pointing to the concealed polygamy in Western society, which lacks protection for its inevitable victims.

In *Family Life in Islam*, a new publication from the Islamic Foundation in Leicester, the institute's director, Mr Khurshid Ahmad, attacks the way family life in the West seems to be evolving.

"We refuse to accept the allegedly value-neutral approach that willy-nilly fashions the life and perspectives of man in the secular culture of the West today. We think the disintegration of the family in the West is, in part, a result of confusion about the place and the role of the family in society and about the purpose of life itself", Mr Ahmad says.

"In an age in which freedom is worshipped like a god, man is being deprived of the most important freedom: the freedom to choose his ideals, values, institutions, and patterns of life. One of the greatest tasks that lie ahead is restoration and rehabilitation of this freedom of choice and its judicious and informed use to set the house of humanity in order."

One of the objectives of marriage is psychological, emotional and spiritual companionship between husband and wife, Mr Ahmad says. The relationship between husband and wife "is a spiritual relationship and sustains and generates love, kindness, mercy, compassion, mutual confidence, self-sacrifice, solace, and succour.

"The best in human nature expresses itself in the flowering of these relationships. It is only in the context of the family that what is spiritually potential in men and women becomes real and sets the pace for the blossoming of goodness and virtue within the family and outside it.

"In marriage companionship, each partner seeks ever-increasing fulfilment. With children in the family, the values of fellow feeling, of love and compassion, of sacrifice for others, of tolerance and kindness, are translated into reality and imparted in character. It is the family that provides the most congenial climate for the development and fulfilment of human personality."

The rules of Islamic family life, which lay down the principles to be followed in such matters as inheritance, the rights of orphans, and the mixing of the sexes, are calculated to foster the integrity of the family in every way. Even the extended family network in Islamic culture is the product more of law than of custom.

Mr Ahmad's belief that the preservation of family life is essential to the welfare and prosperity of nations is one that many Christians and Jews would share, and many humanists. If so, the Islamic nations may be in a strong position in the world today not just because of Arab oil wealth but because they possess a stable system of domestic relationships such as the West is trying to do without.

Family Life in Islam: by Khurshid Ahmad: The Islamic Foundation, 3-7 Kaythorpe Street, Leicester.

Church news

Latest appointments include:
Mr S. P. Osmond to be secretary of the Church Commissioners from May 1 in succession to Mr K. S. Ryle, who is to retire.
The Rev D. Matthiae, assistant curate of Charlton-in-Dover, diocese of Canterbury, to be Vicar of St Gregory the Great, Canterbury, same diocese.
[illegible]

Diocese of Chelmsford
[illegible] Belchamp [illegible]
The Rev R. Bennett, Rector of Loughton, to be deputy director of the Urban Ministry Project.

Diocese of Coventry
The Rev T. E. Longfield, curate of St Mary's, Leamington Spa, to be Vicar of St Philip, Deacon and Evangelist, Potters Green.
The Rev C. P. K. Barnes, Vicar of Stratford-upon-Avon with Bishopton, diocese of Coventry, to be honorary canon of Coventry Cathedral.

Diocese of Derby
The Rev R. G. Middleton, assistant curate of St Margaret's, Prestwich, diocese of Manchester, to be a team Vicar in the Buxton Team Ministry.
The Rev C. M. Roberts, Vicar of Castleton, to be a team Vicar in the Buxton Team Ministry.
The Rev T. E. Roberts, Vicar of Chesterfield, diocese of Derby, to be Vicar of Tenterden with Smallhythe, diocese of Canterbury.

Diocese of Liverpool
The Rev S. R. Smith, Vicar of St Nathaniel's, Fazakerley, to be Vicar of St James's, Lathom.
The Rev M. P. Skillings, curate of St Elphin's, Warrington, to be industrial chaplain in Warrington.

Diocese of Rochester
The Rev Bernard R. Ingram, assistant curate of St George's, Gravesend, to be Vicar of St Edmund's, Dartford.
The Rev Graham R. Lock, curate of St Mary with St Paulinus, Cray, to be priest in charge of St Paul's, Chatham.

Resignations
The Rev G. Blacktop, Vicar of Baston and Langtoft, diocese of Lincoln, to retire on March 31.
The Rev C. W. Lancaster, Rector of Welby and Vicar of Heydour with Culverthorpe and Londonthorpe, diocese of Lincoln, to retire and resign on February 28.

25 years ago

From The Times of Thursday, December 22, 1949

Mr Stalin, who yesterday reached the age of 70, attended last night a meeting in celebration of his birthday at the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow.

Reuter reports from Moscow that searchlights picked out a giant figure of Mr Stalin in marshal's uniform suspended from balloons 1,000ft above the Kremlin and Red Square. Millions of small red flags fluttered over Moscow buildings during the day and thousands of red banners proclaimed "*Velikomu Stalinu Slava*" (Glory to the great Stalin). At night slogans were formed with millions of electric light bulbs, and thousands of portraits of Stalin distributed throughout the city were illuminated.

The British Embassy in Moscow yesterday delivered to the Kremlin [a] message from Mr Attlee to Mr Stalin.

Latest wills

Gifts to three Oxford hospitals

Mr Sidney Eustace Baker, of Ascott under Wychwood, left £56,620 net (duty paid £56,620). He left his property on trust for his wife for life and then equally among the Radcliffe Infirmary, Churchill Hospital, and the Orthopaedic Hospital, all at Oxford.

Other estates include (net before duty paid; further duty may be payable on some estates):
Gunton, Mr William Henry, of Richmond, Yorkshire (duty paid, £43,874) £110,480
Lucas, Mrs Cecilia Mary Margaret, of Weobley (duty paid, £12,907) £62,909
Merriman, Mr Hugh Maskelyne, of Holmwood, Surrey (duty paid, £31,796) £108,216
Odling, Miss Winifriede Lucy Sophia, of Wimbledon (duty paid, £13,952) £64,748
Ord, Miss Muriel, of Godalming (duty paid, £36,960) .. £106,876
Wallis, Gladys Margaret, of Wallington (duty paid, £10,902) £39,655
Smirke, Mrs Marion Ruth, of Leatherhead, wife of Mr C. J. W. Smirke (duty paid, £38,584) £103,691
Thomas, Mr Edward Wynne, of Minehead (duty paid, £9,593) £53,505

Parliamentary Diary

House of Lords

Monday, December 16: Safety of Sports Grounds read third time. Motion to take note of Developments in the European Communities White Paper agreed to. Motions on Elections (Welsh Forms) Regulations, Patents (Fees Amendment) Order, and Youth Employment Service (Northern Ireland) Order agreed to. Debatable question about the moving of the Public Search Office. House adjourned 8.26 pm.
Tuesday, December 17: Motion to take note of defence review statement. Motion on Army, Air Force and Navy Discipline Acts (Continuation) Order [illegible]
Wednesday, December 18: Supply Powers Bill read first time. Debate on devolution for Scotland: motion withdrawn. Debatable question about petrol price increase. House adjourned 7.38 pm.
Thursday, December 19: District Courts (Scotland) Bill passed report and remaining stages. Education Bill read second time. Race Relations Bill read first time. Motion on Social Security (Contributions and Married Women and Widows) Miscellaneous Amendment Regulations agreed to. The following Acts received the Royal Assent: Crouch Harbour; Port of Tyne (North Shields Fish Harbour); and River Wear Barrage. House adjourned 3.8 pm for the Christmas recess.

House of Commons

Monday, December 16: Statement on fires in London and Nottingham. Statement by the Prime Minister on EEC heads of government meeting. Debate on motion to take note of defence review statement: Opposition amendment rejected by 316 votes to 256; motion agreed to by 341 votes to 58. Motion on Milk (Extension of Period of Maximum Prices) Order agreed to. Adjournment debate about the Bakerloo line. House adjourned 1.7 am (Tuesday).
Tuesday, December 17: Statement by the Prime Minister on Mr Stonehouse. Motion for first reading of Amendment of School-leaving Age Bill rejected by 228 votes to 130. Finance Bill read second time by 308 votes to 15. Debate on a motion for the adjournment on EEC loans. Adjournment debate about Miller hospital, Greenwich. House adjourned 1.10 am (Wednesday).
Wednesday, December 18: Statements on Crown Agents and EEC business. Representation of the People (Proxy Voting) Bill read first time. Leave given to introduce Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill. Debate on [illegible] (Thursday).
Thursday, December 19: Statement on members' pay and assistance for Opposition parties. Representation of the People (Amendment) Bill read first time. Motion for the Christmas adjournment agreed to. Motion on Civil and Defence Estimates agreed to. Consolidated Fund (No 3) Bill read first time. Debate on a motion for the adjournment on Developments in the European Communities White Paper and EEC documents on Community finance and the draft General Budget: motion withdrawn. Motion on Social Security (Contributions and Married Women and Widows) Miscellaneous Amendment Regulations agreed to. Adjournment debate about break-up of farms in the Green Belt. House adjourned 12.20 am (Friday).
Friday, December 20: Motion for adjournment for Christmas recess: debates on nuclear energy; grants for fishing vessels; NVT; textile industry in Leicester; Isle of Wight ferries; wage stop rule; glasshouse industry in West Sussex; and Bearsted Memorial Hospital. Adjournment debate about London rail study. House adjourned 4.29 pm until Monday, January 13.

Appointments in the Forces

Royal Navy
REAR-ADMIRAL: A. D. Cassidi, Dir Gen Naval Manpower and Trng, June, 1975.
CAPTAINS: A. D. Barlow, Neptune as Supt Base Support Clyde Submarine Base and Staff Engr Offr, April 30, 1975; G. Hayne, Nelson in Cmd, March 5, 1975, (to serve in rank of Commodore); A. Casdagli, NAIAD in Cmd, April, 1975; P. E. Melly, Rtd List, April 17, 1975.
COMMANDERS: E. A. Baldwin, RNAY Fleetlands, May 27, 1975; G. A. Hogg, Heron, June 30, 1975; D. G. M. White, MOD with PE, Nov 11, 1975; I. B. Sutherland, MOD with Nav Sec and as Secy to Rear-Admiral J. M. Forbes, July 7, 1975; A. J. B. Paterson, MOD with DGNPS (DNSC), March 24, 1975; M. A. Oliver, Nelson as Support Mngr to MOIC RNH Haslar, April 7, 1975; M. A. R. Tilley, MOD with DFM for SUIS Study Team Jan 13, 1975; P. M. T. Banyard, RNC Greenwich as Dy Director LGC, June 13, 1975; R. J. Campbell, Hydra Taunton, Feb 10, 1975; M. J. Davidson, Defiance as Base Engr Offr, June 6, 1975; F. W. Hay, MOD (PE) with DGW (N) DDWP as UK Liaison Offr on the Staff of CBNS Washington, April 25, 1975; K. G. Paul, Daedalus for HAPDN, April 28, 1975; E. C. J. Clough, Retd List, Jan 1; D. N. T. Murray, Retd List, Feb 23, 1975.
INSTRUCTOR-COMMANDER: G. S. Greenhalgh, Dolphin for Staff of FOSM as FMSO and OIC FMST 10, April 14, 1975.
CHAPLAIN: Rev G. W. Craig, Raleigh, Feb 24, 1975.

The Army
[illegible]
CCRE HQ 1 (BR) Corps: Col J. S. Ireson apptd DP (FVE)2, DGFVE, MOD (PE).
COLONEL: Lt-Col R. L. Wallis, RCT, to be Comd 27 Regt RCT, Dec 31.
LIEUT-COLONELS: R. H. Young, RA to be GS O1 RA, HQ BAOR, Dec 27; Maj A. J. Winterbourne, RAPC, to be Div Offr RAPC Computer Centre, Dec 30.
RETIREMENTS: Brig P. K. Goozee, Dec 25; Maj-Gen P. L. de C. Martin, Dec 28; Brig A. W. Anstey, Dec 29; Gen Sir Thomas Pearson, Dec 27.

Royal Air Force
AIR COMMODORE: R. D. Thorne to Moscow as AA.
WING COMMANDERS: H. R. Harbord to O & ASC Biggin Hill as Brd Chrmn; M. G. Bradley to MOD (AFD) as OR25; P. C. Vangucci to Bracknell as DS.
SQUADRON LEADERS (with acting rank of Wing Commander): J. Ward to HQ Strike Command as Mech Eng (Trans); B. Renyard to HQ Strike Cmnd as Eng Co-ord & Plans 2.

Science report

Sonics: 'Surround sound' system

According to research at Reading and Oxford universities, the present concept of "quadraphonics" as a three-dimensional sound reproduction system is a dead end. Professor Peter Fellgett, of Reading, describes a new and better "surround sound" system in a recent issue of *Nature*. He says that this system, known as ambisonics, produces complete spherical directionality from a recording encoded on a minimum of two audio channels.

What must now be regarded as "conventional" quadraphonic hi-fi systems use four loudspeakers, each of which has its own audio channel; that makes for fairly complex equipment at the playback stage. But with an ambisonic system, the complexities are required only in the recording studio, not in the user's living room.

It seems that the new system also provides a more realistic audio "picture", reproducing not just sounds from each of the four speakers, but also giving a convincing reproduction of sounds that seem to originate either between the listener and the speakers or from beyond a speaker, relative to the listener.

In fact, the ambisonic system is not limited to just four speakers, although that number has obvious commercial advantages. The "secret" of the system is that it uses four microphones mounted together in a tetrahedral array, and these pick up sounds from all directions equally. There is no reason why six speakers could not be used, with one above and one below the listener, or even more if desired. But of course some standard must be agreed on if ambisonic decoders are to be marketed commercially, and four speakers seems best.

The system requires, for the best reproduction, one channel fewer than the number of speakers. So a commercial model with three channels and four speakers (quadraphonics requires four channels) looks the most likely development.

Present interest in "surround sound" seems to have been stimulated by engineers in recording studios who had the opportunity and incentive to "play" with the effects they could produce. Professor Fellgett says that in the recording industry it is customary to mix-down multi-microphone recording on to four-track master tape in which signals are often "stereo-blended" between pairs of channels. A crude version of surround sound is produced when such a recording is played back through four amplifiers and four loudspeakers distributed roughly in a square near the corners of a room. That, more or less, is the "quadraphony" approach.

The new ambisonics system tackles the problem rather differently; in particular, the tetrahedral array of microphones can cope effectively with the vertical component of the sound waves reaching it. The mathematics of the theory behind the encoding system are complex, and the equipment itself is complex. But the system has now got beyond the theory stage, with the support of IMF, a British loudspeaker manufacturer, and the National Research Development Corporation, which holds patents on the system.

It will, however, be some time before such a system is available commercially.

By Nature-Times News Service.
Source: *Nature*, Dec 13 (252, 534; 1974).
© Nature-Times News Service, 1974.
Nature, the international science journal, is published weekly in London by Macmillan Journals Ltd.

Oxford elections

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE: Classics: open scholarship, C. W. Parton, Haileybury; open exhibitions, A. J. C. Edis, Liverpool C; R. G. Smith, Robert Gordon's C. [illegible]
[illegible] (mathematics): J. M. Crowther, Morecambe HS (geology); W. R. Snelgrove, Ravensbourne S (physics). Open War Memorial scholarship, R. Kapoor, City of London S (medicine); open exhibitions, S. L. C. Bell, Qu Elizabeth GS, Wakefield (chemistry); S. J. M. Craon, Eton (physics); S. M. Cox, Gunnersbury Cath S (engineering); G. P. Evans, Wheelwright's GS (engineering); A. Hardwick, Henry Fanshawe S, Dronfield [illegible]
Mathematics: scholarship, D. R. Hartley, King Edward's S, Bath; exhibitions, M. R. Devereux, Tiffin Boys' S; A. I. Johnston, Harrogate GS; M. A. Jones, Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical S. Natural science: scholarships, F. R. Howell, St Mary's Sixth Form C, Middlesbrough (medicine); D. N. Pratt, Ipswich S (geology); A. W. Robertson, Varndean GS (physics); A. M. Stansfield, Weymouth GS (physics—CEGB) [illegible]
[illegible] house (law).
Modern studies: open Simmons scholarship, P. R. Beckett, Stoke-on-Trent Sixth Form C (law); open exhibitions, J. Shrimpton, Lymm GS (PPE); J. Sibson, The Perse S (PPE); I. E. Lindsay, Cranbrook S (PPE); A. J. Green, Brighton, Hove and Sussex GS (theology).
Modern languages: open exhibitions, S. R. Dannreuther, Winchester C; J. T. [illegible]
[illegible] Park GS; St Helen's (history and economics); Miss J. R. Quelch, Oxford HS (PPE).
English: S. J. R. Henry, Cranleigh S. Mathematics: G. Buckenham, Sir John Leman S, Beccles; J. A. Burgess, Crewe Co GS; R. Collier, Crewe Co GS; Miss G. E. Harris, Ursuline Convent, Brentwood; P. G. Robinson, Tiffin S. Natural Science: N. G. Brook, Bablake S, Coventry (law); M. P. Howarth [illegible]

OBITUARY

MR MAURICE PLATNAUER

Notable classics career at Oxford

Mr Maurice Platnauer, former Principal of Brasenose College, Oxford, who died on December 19 at the age of 87, was born at York, the only child of H. M. Platnauer, a member of the museum staff there. He was educated at Shrewsbury, where he was a mathematical scholar, and then at New College, Oxford, where he won first classes in Classical Honour Moderations and in Literae Humaniores, after being made an honorary scholar of the college.

He then took the BLitt degree with a dissertation on Septimus Severus, which was awarded the unusual accolade of praise from a leader writer in *The Times* many years later. He was an assistant master for four years at Winchester, until the First World War, when he volunteered for the Royal Field Artillery.

After three more years at Winchester, where he was exceedingly happy teaching the Senior Division in classics, he was elected a Fellow of Brasenose in 1922. He taught the classics (passmen at first as well as honours), for nearly 35 years, and was a university Lecturer in Classics for most of that time. He was Vice-Principal of the college from 1936 to 1956, Curator of Common Room from 1946 to 1956, and Principal from 1956 to 1960. He was also an Honorary Fellow of New College.

His published works were the monograph on Septimus Severus, a translation of Claudian for the Loeb edition (1922), an edition with commentary of Euripides' *Iphigenia in Tauris* (1937), and *Latin Elegiac Verse*, a most useful book on the linguistic and metrical usage of the Latin Elegiac poets (1951), and he was editor of *Fifty Years of Classical Scholarship* (1954).

He also contributed to the *Classical Quarterly*, which he edited from 1936 to 1947, and to other classical journals at home and abroad. After his retirement in 1960 he was heavily engaged in helping with the revision of Liddell and Scott's lexicon, and produced a new edition, with commentary, of *The Peace* of Aristophanes.

As a scholar he was careful and meticulous. A keen student of language and especially of grammar and syntax, he was one of those rare men who enjoy reading voluminous grammars from beginning to end; and other Oxford dons used to appeal to him as an expert on Greek accentuation. His lectures were exceptionally lucid; he would expound problems in the text of Theocritus without looking at a note, and, in middle age at least, he could cite all the references from memory.

He had a keen taste in classical literature, and was a very good composer in Greek. He was well read, too, in English literature, and was a voracious reader of modern novels. In his early years at Brasenose his was a notably "civilizing" influence. He was devoted to music, which he also did much to promote in the university, although he would say that he had "a passion" in that sphere "for the second rate".

He was an expert on French wine and food, and would spend months in the summer walking, cycling or canoeing in France. He knew the south of France better than any Englishman or most Frenchmen do.

In later life he inherited a large fortune from his mother, and in 1954 he gave the first of several large benefactions to his college. But his increased wealth made little difference to his habits, except that it enabled him to make large gifts to friends in need, which he did by stealth. He was frugal in his way of life: until old age he rarely took a taxi when he could get a bus.

But his hospitality was proverbial. There can have been few university dons who not only royally entertained so many friends and acquaintances, but also formed such deep and long lasting friendships with members of each generation. He was rather shy, of great modesty, and his gentleness and courtesy won him exceptional affection from the young as well as the old, and not only in the college which he loved so well and served so faithfully.

MR ROGER BURKE

Watching brief on the law

Mr Roger Burke, editor of the *New Law Journal*, who died suddenly in London last Thursday, was aged 37. A man of great energy and many talents, he was born in co Cork and educated in London.

He joined the Army at an early age and was attached to the Parachute Regiment in Cyprus. During his five year Army service he became middleweight boxing champion, winning 57 out of his 60 fights.

A spell in the Inland Revenue followed and soon revealed a quick understanding of tax law and practice which enabled him to set up as a tax consultant, particularly to solicitors. He branched out into freelance journalism, with contributions, mainly on tax matters, appearing regularly in about 30 newspapers and periodicals.

He married in 1957, and with his wife founded a fortnightly research and information service on parliamentary and local government and economic affairs. Indeed his involvement in local government led him to become a member of the Bexley Council and Bexley Arts Council, chairman of the Bexley housing committee and a governor of several schools. He was the first general secretary of Amnesty International.

In 1969 he joined Butterworths, the law publishers, working on *Simon's Taxes*. He continued to write in his spare time, and published several books on local government matters. When Tom Harper gave up the editorship of the *New Law Journal*, Butterworths turned to Burke as his natural successor.

Since July, 1971, when he became editor, Burke's lively style and particularly his outspoken comments on the law and the legal establishment, contributed much to the *New Law Journal*'s success.

It is significant that reforms or amendments of the law often followed criticism in the *New Law Journal*. Burke leaves a widow and two teenage daughters.

SIR MORRIS FINER

Mr Paul McQuail writes:

Morris Finer came to the chairmanship of the Royal Commission on the Press in a spirit of open-minded inquiry, with no preconception about the problems of the press, still less about their solution. He was persuaded only that what was involved was in no sense a narrow financial and technical inquiry, vital though technological change might be. Above all, he was determined that it should be useful.

He brought to the task a very wide experience of the press, and of public life; he also brought his own energy, breadth of reading and of interest, and the cutting edge of a fine mind. The lack of preconception, he would grumble, to the slight suprise of some of those he spoke to, was "very incommoding": but it was essential to his idea of the commission's function.

His first aim was to bring his fellow members of the commission together in a spirit of common inquiry that drew on the diversity of their backgrounds and personalities; he achieved this by his toughmindedness, humour, responsiveness to men and women of all kinds, and his way of talking "not dogmatically but deliberately".

It was by the same means that he was setting the tone for the inquiry through a series of informal conversations, both individual and with groups of his colleagues, with leading editorial, managerial and union figures in the publishing world and with academic and other observers.

He had three objects in mind: to establish to his own satisfaction, and to that of his colleagues, what the problems requiring solution were; to persuade people disposed to treat the Royal Commsision with circumspection that it could indeed have a contribution to make; and to urge them to undertake the necessary (and, as he would point out to them, hard) work of preparing serious evidence for the commission.

The loss to the commission needs no dwelling on, although he had gone far in achieving these objects. What is certain is that, by the end of this introductory phase of the commission's work, he had satisfied himself, his colleagues and many others both that issues of the highest importance—to do with the purpose and the conditions for survival of a genuinely free press in a changing society—were involved; and that there was a useful and practical role for the commission to play.

He and the commission had initiated a considerable body of work independent of evidence volunteered by others. Even more important, he infected the commission, and its secretary and small staff, with his own broad and creative approach to the inquiry. They will miss his friendship and the fun of working with him even more than his intellect. They offer sympathy to his widow and sons.

SIR GEOFFREY BARNARD

Vice-Admiral Sir Geoffrey Barnard, CB, CBE, DSO and bar, who has died at the age of 72, entered the Royal Navy in 1916 and later specialized in gunnery. He was three times decorated for his services in the Mediterranean during the critical years of the 1939-45 War.

In 1941 he was awarded the DSO for untiring efforts to improve the fighting efficiency of the fleet, and for courage, coolness and devotion to duty in the Battle of Matapan. In 1943, when he had become Deputy Chief of Staff to the Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean, he was mentioned in dispatches for distinguished services in operations which led to the landing of the naval forces in North Africa.

A few months later, he was made CBE for distinguished services in operations which led to the clearance of the enemy from North Africa. Then in 1945 he was awarded a bar to his DSO for gallantry during the invasion of the South of France.

In 1945 Admiral Barnard, then serving as captain, became Chief Staff Officer to the Flag Officer (Air) Home. In 1948 he was appointed Director of the Royal Naval Tactical School, where he remained until he was lent to the Indian Navy to command the Indian Navy Squadron, an appointment he held until October, 1951.

On promotion to rear-admiral in July, 1951, he became Assistant Chief of Naval Staff (Weapons) at the Admiralty and subsequently Deputy Chief of Naval Staff and a Lord Commissioner of the Admiralty. In 1954 he took up the post of Admiral, the British Joint Staff, Washington, and was granted the rank of vice-admiral on appointment.

He was President of the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, from 1956 to 1958, and retired in 1959. In 1957 he was created KCB.

Brigadier Harold Pinder, CBE, MC and bar, formerly of the Royal Leicestershire Regiment, has died at the age of 85. He served in both World Wars and was mentioned in dispatches in both. He was Colonel of the Royal Leicesters 1948-54.

Mr Charles Hewitt, the former football manager, has died in a Chester hospital, aged 76. He had two periods with Millwall, a spell in the Services, and was with Leyton Orient from 1946 to 1948.

Lady Dodds, widow of Sir James Dodds, KCMG, some time Ambassador to Peru, died on December 19. She was Etelka, daughter of Brig-General Sir Herbert Conyers Surtees. Her first husband, Edward Bell, of New York, died and she married Sir James Dodds in 1927. He died in 1972.

هكذا من الأصل

THE ARTS

Photograph by Zoe Dominic

Dinah Sheridan, Raymond Francis and Tony Anholt.

The Gentle Hook
Piccadilly

Charles Lewsen

Purely as a puzzle, Francis Durbridge's new thriller works well. Within minutes on Saturday I guessed the murderer, then through the evening, changed my mind more times than there are characters. Even that ever self-incriminating question, "Have you told anybody else about this?" was addressed to a potential victim by no less than two persons.

Mr Durbridge knows that if you wish to mislead your audience, you must first give them the sensation of being thoroughly informed; so frequently the same event is narrated a second time. One does not feel that he is battering one's brain, because the repetition is used to precipitate some new action or to reveal further information. The final repetition has another purpose: to show the triumph of the amateur—and though I have no intention of telling you who dun it, I think it quite fair to inform you that it was not the detective who found out.

This brings us to the undoubted weakness of the entertainment: the come-uppance is efficiently written by Mr Durbridge and directed by Basil Coleman; as a scene of suspense as to who is going to kill whom (even if we really know the baddie must come to a sticky end) it creates excitement. The fact that justice has been achieved by dint of native amateur wit, not through professional police training, does not contribute to the pleasure of the scene.

I am not specifically saying that John Quentin should be playing one of those oafs that have had to confess themselves baffled by inspired amateurs from Holmes to Miss Marple and beyond; and it is certainly a pleasure that Mr Quentin is permitted to wear clothes which, like all those chosen by Toby Robins for Mr Durbridge's well-heeled cast, are extremely well cut. Perhaps one should even raise a cheer that he never rises on his toes or bends his knees before delivering a tricky question. The fact remains that Mr Quentin is called upon to play a cypher, so we do not care that someone has beaten him at his job.

Jack Watling's tense stillness in the opening scene implies that we could learn something of real interest about the estranged husband; Dinah Sheridan presents both a professional efficiency and a personal disturbance that could make his interior designer wife someone of interest. We are not allowed to explore what has brought their marriage to the rocks, and indeed we never really feel that they are or have been married. Naturally we suspect that Mr Watling, among others, has planned Miss Sheridan's murder; but, since we are emotionally removed, our suspicion is academic.

It would not have shattered the conventions of the thriller if Raymond Francis, as Miss Sheridan's father, had been permitted evidence of a stomach ulcer from the start; similarly it would have added colour if Tony Anholt, as her partner in interior design, had either positively defied theatrical convention or flamboyantly followed up the oldfashioned implications attached to a man who not only deals in soft furnishings but cooks omelettes.

If it is not rich dramatically, it is urbane. Miss Sheridan, we are told, buys her fabrics from the Paris firm of "Doré & Balzac". Hutchinson Scott's set, all black bamboo and watered silk, bears elegant witness.

Young East Anglian mother a century ago, reproduced in *P. H. Emerson: Photographer of Norfolk* (Gordon Fraser, £8). Emerson's own caption noted: ". . . the hard-worked mother, dragged down by penury and child-bearing, was preparing a coarse meal for delicate children, each of whom was suffering from eczema. Pure air and good food they needed, and neither could they get. Unconscious of their grinding fate, they raised to us their large blue serious eyes full of innocent wonder."

MONDAY BOOK

The Victorian Country Child

By Pamela Horn

(Roundwood Press, £6)

To think of the Victorian child is to think, initially, of the Dickensian child; born in a city slum, educated, if at all, by rule and rote at a Mr Gradgrind's; employed from the age of eight as chimney-sweep, factory serf, kitchen drudge—or as one of a Fagin's pick-pocket gang.

That was true for many. But Pamela Horn's book puts the picture into better perspective. In 1837, agricultural labourers comprised the largest category of workers of any type in Britain. So the majority of Victorian children were country children. How fortunate! Or was it?

Many, of course, were fortunate to survive birth, without benefit of medical attention, in a one-up, one-down, insanitary cottage, anything between two and 10 miles from farmhouse or village. The infant mortality rate was almost as high as in urban areas and children died not only of the common, epidemic diseases, but of malnutrition. Living among crops and cows did not mean living off the fat of the land. Farm labourers carried little, and had neither land nor means to keep animals. Skim milk went to the farmer's pigs, not to his workers' children.

Large families were the 19th century norm. Adults and children shared one bedroom and often, one bed. Clothes were hand-me-downs and washed, like bodies, infrequently and at an outdoor pump or trough. In winter the water froze, in summer it dried up and brackish cupfuls were collected from distant streams.

Then came school, for those with some shoes to walk there. *Teachers tried hard.* against impossible odds—inadequate, ill-ventilated buildings, with regimented desks, dull lesson books. "At Blaxhall, Suffolk, in 1851, children were asked to calculate 'how many furlongs, rods, yards, feet, inches and barleycorns will reach round the earth, supposing it according to the best calculations to be 25,020 miles?'"

Others learned that "The eleventh labour of Hercules was to procure the golden apples of the Hesperides".

But farm work kept many away, from March until October. Perhaps potato-picking, turnip-scraping and wood-carting from 6 am to 8 pm were healthier than chimney-sweeping?

I have often suspected those reminiscences of country childhood which give off a glow of carefree happiness; summers were always long and hot, and harvesters sang, in winter *everyone skated by frosty* moonlight, before repairing to the cosy fireside. Not in reality. But there were probably more compensations than for children in the cities.

Mrs Horn's book is illuminating and well-balanced, though rather limited in the geographical scope of its researches, and she relies too heavily upon extended quotations from already well-known books, by Flora Thompson, George Sturt, Sybil Marshall, and on hearsay. I should have liked a chapter, too, about the children of squire, parson, doctor—a minority, but an important one.

Still, the book is valuable because it presents us with a detailed account of a world and a life-style which has gone, not only for good but in many respects for *the* good. Anyone currently extolling the joys of the simple *rural life should* read it to get his facts straight, about poverty, physical hardship and exploitation, sickness, illiteracy, isolation. Our children are immeasurably better off now, in town and country, in physical, material and educational terms. In all other terms, I'm not so sure.

Susan Hill

Le nozze di Figaro
Covent Garden

William Mann

The current revival of Mozart's *Figaro* at the Royal Opera House should have been conducted by Josef Krips. Since he died in October, Friday's performance was dedicated to his memory; in his stead, the highly expert John Pritchard was in charge, also accompanying the recitatives on the harpsichord.

An interesting cast has been assembled. The new Countess, Margaret Price, demonstrated the seriousness of her intentions with an exquisitely moulded, perfectly secure "Porgi, amor" and followed this with a grand vocally sumptuous account of "Dove sono". There, perhaps, she could have varied colour and expression for repeated sections, of which there are many in the aria. As enjoyable as these set pieces were her runs in the trio "Susanna, or via sortite", and her mimicry of Susanna in the garden scene. Nor is she a docile Countess; she stands up firmly to her husband and will soon have him tamed.

But then Victor Braun is quite a lightweight Count Almaviva, both vocally (with his ingratiating baritone) and in his jaunty characterization darkened only by moments of self-will and rage. Against those two are set Elizabeth Robson's charming but emotionally well elaborated Susanna (a touch of vocal glare and even flatness to set against a lovely impersonation) and Richard Van Allan's sparkling yet dangerous Figaro, vocally strongest in his last aria but a pleasure to observe throughout.

Another newcomer, Trudeliese Schmidt, gives us a dapper, brilliantly impetuous Cherubino, enchanted by the prospect of wearing the Countess's bodice and all too quick to hide in her bed when the Count's knock is heard. Clifford Grant's Bartolo is also new to this house, less pointed than I expected; so are Elizabeth Gale's lovely Barbarina, John Dobson's Curzio, and Paul Hudson's Antonio.

John Copley's production is becoming perilously grotesque, notably in Alexander Oliver's down-at-heel Basilio and Heather Begg's caricature lamp post Marcellina, but also in many small comic details such as the lecherous maid who ogles Almaviva during the first chorus.

At first I feared that Mr Pritchard was in a businesslike but uninspiring mood for an opera which he has been conducting often memorably, for many years. He warmed to the two big finales, with all their challenge and wealth of marvellous detail and brought the wedding march acutely to life. Marcellina's and Basilio's arias were omitted, perhaps because we now have two intervals. In the new year Geraint Evans will return to the namepart and Kenneth Montgomery will conduct three performances.

Rory Gallagher
Rainbow Theatre

Philip Norman

Among the handful of genuine originators in British rock music, the Irish guitarist Rory Gallagher is typically self-effacing. He is still mainly identified with Taste, a band whose promise was scarcely realized before their dissolution. Since then he has confined himself to theatre appearances, disdaining the hit parade machine and adopting a life of almost monkish austerity. To the wider public, his talents have remained largely a matter of rumour.

Those who have seen him in concert feel differently. No sooner had Gallagher walked on to the Rainbow stage on Friday, and begun his famous "Messing with the Kid", than his audience was on its feet shaking its scarves and hair in a rapture of long-accumulated good will. Few performances are lucky enough to begin at such a climax. Fewer still, as they proceed, become even better.

He is a modest figure under the lights, affable but shy. His guitar, not he, is the showman. Gallagher himself seems genuinely delighted by the spectacle which he can produce from it, from blues to old-fashioned pop, dragging out the keyboard-echo like T. Bone Walker, leaping off the bridge to the dead strings and back again, his bare forearm as nonchalant as if he is washing out his socks.

He played slide guitar on a flashing chromium finger; he played banjo with audacious agility. He played strings possibly up to the limit at which they can survive, and sang untiringly and was untiringly pleasant. I have never seen a performer take fewer drinks from his beer can at the side of the stage.

It is true that we no longer judge our rock singers on their prettiness or politeness: nevertheless I feel that Jackie Lynton, who opened the concert, has discovered a new region of the ungainly and unattractive. He is a dishevelled man who covers himself with beads and, while singing, moves noisily but dully around the stage as if trying to shake something from the bottom of his shoe. Despite the uproar created by this vocalist with his band, it was all too easy to forget that he was there.

ECO/Andrew Davis
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Alan Blyth

The English Chamber Orchestra, although its management and personnel have changed greatly over the past year, has happily maintained its pre-Christmas tradition of inviting one of our leading singers to join it in an attractive, varied programme. This year it was Robert Tear's turn and, with Andrew Davis supporting him at the harpsichord and on the podium, he gave us his Bach and Britten.

Or was it Bach? Whenever I hear the cantata *Meine Seele rühmt und preist*, its short-breathed, cosy invention suggest one of the master's lesser contemporaries, and its authenticity is certainly in question. Be that as it may, Mr Tear took its message of joy to heart, and danced lightly through the two attractive faster arias with flexible tone and easy grace, while using a fuller voice and more pointed accentuation for the central "Gott hat sich hoch gesetzet" with its delightful matching in music of God looking down on the lowly and poor. His singing was finely integrated with the neatly shaped instrumental playing of José-Luis Garcia (violin), William Bennett (flute) and Peter Graeme (oboe), principals of the ECO.

Mr Tear's *Les Illuminations* proved less satisfying. His understanding of the early Britten idiom is not in question, but his familiarity with the text and music led him into what used to be termed an operatic reading, but is better described as an overt one, leaving little in its emphasis to the imagination. Mr Davis encouraged this approach with his rather brittle, highly strung direction. Some of the songs, "Royauté" for instance, survived this treatment much better than others, and at least one was always aware of two intelligent minds at work.

Mr Davis was much happier with an earlier British tradition, ending a week that has been rich in excellent Elgar interpretations with a broad and committed reading of the Introduction and Allegro. He was not afraid of making a *largamente* marking truly that and of extracting every mite of power out of the *fugato* section. The quartet contribution was heard more easily than usual against a small string band, so that every strand of Elgar's involved argument could be heard.

More string music at the start with Mr Garcia leading the Autumn and Winter movements of Vivaldi's *The Seasons* and making the most of their onomatopoeic effects. There were no concessions to sentimentality in these crisp but delicate performances.

David Ward
Purcell Room

Joan Chissell

The word genius is often said not to be written so large across Mozart's keyboard music as elsewhere in his prodigious output. Certainly pianists prepared to devote a whole recital to it are not as common as devotees of Beethoven or Chopin. So, in setting up as a Mozart specialist, the young English pianist, David Ward, has his wits about him. The hall was full on Friday for a programme portraying Mozart in London, Paris and Vienna.

But three short extracts from his letters written from those cities was not good value in a programme costing 10p when there was so much we needed to be told about the music itself (especially unfamiliar "London Notebook" pieces) and the fast evolving eighteenth century keyboard.

Mr Ward's sense of style was immediately apparent in his cleanly articulated fingerwork, his clear textures and his purposeful ornaments. Every detail of phrasing, timing, dynamics and touch had obviously been searchingly thought out for himself, so that each work carried a message as distinctive as it was strong. The idea of Mozart as mere charmer was obviously anathema to him.

What we sometimes missed was tonal radiance (Mr Ward's sonority was perhaps a bit stocky), and still more, a feeling of spontaneity. Mr Ward made every repeat in each work a meticulously exact repetition, so that there was little feeling of Mozart himself actually creating the music on the platform, as he so often did.

Nevertheless Mr Ward's urgency and intensity in Sonatina in G minor certainly brought home the precocity of London's little 1764 visitor. His spacious timing and the sturdy independence of his two hands also helped to make the A minor sonata, K.310, uncommonly grave and big. The "Je suis Lindor" variations, K.354, sounded even more like a pre-echo of Beethoven. The latest work, the popular C major sonata, K.545, had a memorable Andante, its tune unbrokenly sustained (though unpedalled) over a pizzicato-type bass.

Some of the notices on this page are reprinted from Saturday's later editions.

Stock Exchange Prices

Capitalization & week's change

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began Dec 9. Dealings End Today § Contango Day, Dec 24. Settlement Day, Jan 7.

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

BRITISH FUNDS

Stock outstanding £	Stock	Price last Friday	Ch'ge on week	Int. only Yield	Gross Red Yield
500m	Treas 6% 1975	99	[illegible]	6.0[illegible]	11.179
450m	Treas 8% 1975	98	[illegible]	8.092	11.064
[illegible]	Savings 3% 1965-75	95	[illegible]	3.156	[illegible]
600m	Exch 6½% 1976	94	[illegible]	6.909	12.0[illegible]
600m	Treas 6½% 1976	92	[illegible]	7.065	12.028
16m	Victory 4% 1976	97	[illegible]	4.124	8.5[illegible]
600m	Treas 10% 1976	96	[illegible]	10.8[illegible]	12.29[illegible]
350m	Treas 6¼% 1977	89	[illegible]	7.022	12.005
100m	Elec 3% 1974-77	87	[illegible]	3.424	9.3[illegible]
600m	Treas 11½% 1977	97	[illegible]	11.835	12.810
242m	Trans 4% 1972-77	85	[illegible]	4.695	9.7[illegible]
600m	Treas 9% 1978	90	[illegible]	9.917	12.5[illegible]
400m	Exch 5% 1976-78	79	[illegible]	6.279	11.8[illegible]
400m	Treas 3% 1979	72	[illegible]	4.1[illegible]	10.495
[illegible]	Treas 11½% 1979	94	[illegible]	[illegible]	13.1[illegible]
[illegible]	Elec 4¼% 1974-79	74	[illegible]	5.695	[illegible]
[illegible]	Elec 3½% 1976-79	71	[illegible]	4.9[illegible]	[illegible]
1000m	Treas Cnv 9% 1980	87	[illegible]	10.5[illegible]	13.753

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

FOREIGN STOCKS

DOLLAR STOCKS

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A—B

C—E

F—H

I—L

M—N

O—S

T—Z

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

SHIPPING

MINES

OIL

PROPERTY

RUBBER

TEA

MISCELLANEOUS

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS

Consumer nations may be allowed to defer payment on 25pc of crude

Edward Townsend

:haikh Ahmed Zaki Yamani, Saudi Arabian Oil Minister, ted broadly at the weekend t in future oil-producing intries may accept deferred ment for possibly a quarter their crude oil, a move which ıld have particular significe for the United Kingdom.

n a speech published by the ally reliable *Middle East nomic Survey* (*MEES*) ikh Yamani said solutions to blems of surplus funds in hands of oil producers and ments deficits for oil conners could be found in talks ween the two sides.

le added that it might be sible for producing countries accept payment for a conerable proportion of their perhaps 25 per cent, on "a g term basis", presumably reference to a type of erred payment system.

IEES said that under such a eme, the allowed portion of erred payment would vary h the purchasing country's nomic strength and ability pay.

'he introduction of deferred ments could be of considere benefit to Britain, which paying about £3,500m a year imported crude oil, and if a ntry-by-country scale was wn up, Britain could be a ne candidate for the maxim relief.

haikh Yamani apparently de no reference to the timing such payments, but a delay paying for a considerable tion of these imports would p Britain during the period ore the full benefits of North oil are felt.

'here was also no light shed the oil minister on the quesı of interest charges on the erred payments, nor whether y would have to take inflaı into account.

Meanwhile the Shah of Iran criticized reports which ted him as threatening to ıg down the international ıetary system if western ntries revalued gold re'es. They were "erroney interpreted", the Iranian ıassy in London said.

he Shah was concerned that producing nations would e to take steps to protect ir purchasing power if up:ing of gold reserves eroded value of oil revenues.

urther signs that nationalizn of oil company assets in Gulf oil states is gaining nentum also came at the ·kend. Mr Abdel-Rahman :tiqi, Kuwait's Finance and Oil Minister, said the country now effectively owned the whole of the Kuwait Oil Company (KOC), in which British Petroleum and Gulf Oil of the United States both have 20 per cent stakes.

This follows the ending of the two-tier pricing system under which the two companies paid taxes and royalties on their share of the output and bought back oil from the government's share of production at a different price.

Last week, Mr al-Atiqi announced a single price of $10.5 a barrel for BP and Gulf, and said at a company ceremony on Saturday that in the new situation, the two companies now had only the status of "most favoured customers".

But he did not refer to the possibility of a new agreement between Kuwait and the two companies.

BP and Gulf each retained a 20 per cent share in KOC under the participation agreement which came into effect last January, giving Kuwait the remaining 60 per cent controlling interest. Under the two-tier price system, which operates in all other big Gulf states, oil from the companies' share of output was much cheaper than that from the government's share.

Mr al-Atiqi said although two weeks ago Kuwait had two partners owning 40 per cent of KOC, they had now become customers enjoying favoured treatment "by virtue of the friendly business relations between us". BP and Gulf would get priority treatment not exceeding 30 cents a barrel, he said.

The Kuwait minister said the KOC ownership issue had become an actual and practical matter faster than was expected. Kuwait's National Assembly, when agreeing to lift the country's stake in KOC to 60 per cent, expected full control not to be delayed beyond 1979.

Reports yesterday from Qatar, another Gulf state where oil companies have held oil concessions for many years, said that the government was to take over all remaining rights and revenues of oil companies.

In Qatar, immediate negotiations have opened with the companies, involving Qatar taking over the remaining 40 per cent of Shell's operations and of the Qatar Petroleum Company, in which Shell, BP, Exxon, Mobil and Compagnie Française des Pétroles participate.

French concern over coastal oil dispute

Brest, Dec 22.—Millions of s of oil are believed to be ıg off the north-western ench coast, but it may be rs before a single barrel be produced because of a pute between France and tain.

Since 1968, ecologists have n preparing a map of a seccalled the Iroise Sea, about miles off the Breton port Brest, where several oil npanies have exploration ts. This sector is believed contained sufficient oil to e France's energy problems years.

But Britain has contested the nership of the area and nding international arbitraon of the question no offore exploitation is possible.

Last month, President Gisrd d'Estaing noted that the spute between France and itain over oil exploration ne limits had made progress fficult, but this was now in ıe hands of experts, he said.

During a visit to Brest, the French President said: "The prospects for exploitation are good. If we find oil off the point of Brittany it can change many things for the French economy."

Despite his call for a speedy start to *exploration*, the President will have to await the international arbitration verdict which could take about two years.

Another reason for delay is that French oil companies have not yet concentrated their efforts in the area, mainly because they fear they might explore parts which could become British. Since they started discussions, British and French negotiators have been far apart in their proposals to share the area.

According to the 1958 Geneva Convention, the dividing line of a continental shelf should be at equal distance from the coastal lines of the countries concerned. But the problem is complicated by various off-shore islands.

BLMC gets Spanish approval for Authi sale

From Henry Debelius
Madrid, Dec 22

General Franco's government this weekend approved the sale of British Leyland's Spanish subsidiary, Authi, to General Motors.

A high official of the Ministry of Industry reportedly said on Saturday night: "There was agreement at the cabinet meeting on Friday about the conditions in which General Motors may take over Authi". The official, Señor Emilio Miranda, director general of steel and shipbuilding, was quoted today by the staid and respectable non-archist daily ABC.

He did not reveal what the "conditions" are, but he did say that the deal worked out last year between the British and the American companies, and which has been awaiting government approval, "calls for a change in existing legislation".

Car industry sources also privately confirmed that the British Leyland deal finally got a government okay, despite opposition from other car manufacturers already established in Spain, who fear competition from the American giant. Approval came after a government-inspired plan for a consortium of Spanish car manufacturers to buy Authi for less than the £27.5m offered by General Motors fell through.

Last week, protesting British Leyland employees staged a sit-in at the Authi engine plant near the northern city of Santander, and warned that if authorization for the sale to GM did not come soon "there will be tensions which might endanger social peace".

Earlier this month, Authi workers' representatives claimed, after a meeting in Madrid with the minister in charge of Spain's obligatory state-run trade unions, Señor Alejandro Fernandez Sordo, that British Leyland had been obliged to transfer £1m from its British home offices to Spain in order to meet the Christmas payroll of the shaky Spanish subsidiary. The workers' representatives called the situation of British Leyland in Spain "desperate".

British Leyland distributors and employees in Spain, as well as local and provincial authorities where the factories are located, this month joined Mr John Barber, the BLMC managing director, in writing letters to the Premier, Senor Carlos Arias Navarro, calling for a rapid decision on the long-delayed GM offer.

Roger Berthoud writes from Brussels: A fine of 100,000 units of account (£50,000) is being imposed on General Motors Continental, Belgian offshoot of General Motors by the European Commission for abuse of its dominant position on the Belgian market.

The decision was taken by the 13-man commission on Friday, but has not yet been officially announced. The commission, which has powers to punish infringement of the Treaty of Rome's rules on fair competition and believes in using them, opened proceedings against GMC NV of Antwerp, in July.

It claimed General Motors Continental had been charging an excessive fee for issuing certificates of conformity for Opel cars brought into Belgium by independent (ie non-GMC) importers.

Under Belgian law, GM Continental has the sole right to issue the certificates, which are required before imported vehicles can be driven on Belgian roads.

By imposing the fine the commission has demonstrated its belief that parallel imports are in the interest of competition and of the consumer and should be safeguarded.

No aid for Holden: There will be no direct government financial aid for General Motors Holden, the Australian-based car manufacturing firm, declared Dr Jim Cairns, the Deputy Prime Minister, today. He made it clear that the Government's main effort would be to help prevent the retrenchment of 5,000 GMH workers

British Leyland successes: British Leyland tonight announced that it had won £10m worth of orders for trucks and buses from four African states in the past three months.

A spokesman said Nigeria, Ghana, Sudan and Zaïre had signed contracts of between £950,000 and £3,750,000.

Report will detail Crown Agents' problems in Australia and assess link with property group

By Maurice Corina
Industrial Editor

A full report, now being prepared by Mr John Cuckney, chairman of Crown Agents, at the specific request of the Government, will detail substantial and as yet undisclosed problems which have beset the agents in Australia. It is to include a detailed assessment of a close association with one of Britain's biggest property groups, Capital & Counties Property, and the present value of investments.

Mrs Judith Hart, Minister for Overseas Development, has directed the new board for the Crown Agents not to engage directly in the property market or to extend existing obligations.

She has to decide whether the partnership between Capital & Counties, whose chairman is Sir Richard Thompson, the Conservative MP, and Crown Agents can continue without revisions to their agreements to undertake huge property developments across Australia. Crown Agents have already drastically written down their portfolio of Australian investments.

Five years ago the board of Crown Agents decided as a matter of policy to direct the interest of their many overseas principals (mainly governments and public authorities) towards investment in the Australian property market as well as stocks.

This decision was supported by two specific moves. These were the formation of Westralian International, a new merchant bank and finance house based in Perth. The other move was the creation of Abbey Orchard Property Investments to undertake a £56m development programme.

Subsequently, some complex negotiations took place in London between Crown Agents representatives and Capital & Counties, which had longer experience of Australian property development. The outcome played some part in Canberra's decision to stop all new outside investment in real estate.

Towards the end of 1971 Crown Agents formally concluded five contracts with Capital & Counties whereby the former would put up £110m for property dealing based on the latter's expertise.

Together they formed Abbey Capital Properties, with Crown Agents owning 48 per cent of the shares against 26 per cent for Capital & Counties, the rest being taken up by other investors. Under the contracts the British property combine then exchanged a 30 per cent stake in its Australian enterprise, Capital & Counties (Australia), in return for 17.5 per cent reciprocal holding in Crown Agents' original concern, Abbey Orchard Properties.

It was now the Crown Agents' responsibility to provide the necessary £110m for a commercial development programme ranging across the big cities of Australia. The deal envisaged an eventual merger of all three companies by 1975.

All the necessary negotiations were taking place as Parliament began to express some disquiet over Crown Agents' dealings elsewhere, largely in the British property and secondary banking market. Those events led to the establishment of the Stevenson inquiry into the structure of Crown Agents.

Earlier in 1971 the Crown Agents-backed merchant bank in Australia — Westralian International—was involved in the collapse of Mineral Securities, which owed the bank money. It was Westralian which moved for liquidation of Mineral Securities.

In 1972 Crown Agents raised their holding in Westralian International—the prelude to conducting the largest fund-raising operation of its kind seen in Australia. Westralian had by January last year raised $A45m (about £30m) in a three-year loan with the Australian discount market, plus another $A20m in longer term public debentures.

This money was specifically to provide bridging finance to the Abbey Capital Property Group of companies, whose programme of development was now estimated at $A200m.

Curiously, this massive operation was to be followed by an unexplained decision by the Crown Agents to merge Westralian with Brayburn Securities, part of the Pierce-Nicholas Group, forming Westralian Holdings.

Crown Agents' interest in the new group is not disclosed, but Pierce-Nicholas and Rural Industries Bank, the state bank of Western Australia, together now hold 51 per cent, indicating some drastic change in Crown Agents' attitude towards Australian operations last year.

Since, Crown Agents have reduced substantially their portfolio investment in Australia.

Private steel sector is poised to raise prices

By Peter Hill

Most of Britain's private sector steel producers hope to put up prices early next month in the wake of the British Steel Corporation's increases.

Generally, prices of steel products in the private sector were about 15 per cent more than the BSC before the state steel concern announced last week that higher tariffs would be introduced from January 2. These will produce an additional £300m in a full year.

During the past few days since the announcement independents have been lodging notice of their increases with European steel authorities in Brussels.

In most cases the increases made by the private sector will bring United Kingdom independent prices to BSC levels, although in one or two cases they could be higher.

The wide range of increases being introduced by the BSC have important implications for the private sector, who buy steel from the corporation. Forging ingots bought by independent forgemasters from the corporation will rise by about 35 per cent, while billets will cost re-rollers in the private sector about 25 per cent more.

Re-rollers are seriously concerned about the corporation's inability to meet their demands which in recent months have caused a number of them to operate on a reduced working week.

Last week Mr B. C. Bruce-Gardner, retiring president of the British Independent Steel Producers' Association, said that the supply inadequacies of the BSC had prompted many private sector companies to review purchasing policies with the likelihood that many would increase the proportion of supplies purchased from overseas.

Aluminium pact: Jamaica has announced agreement on a venture with five Japanese concerns to expand aluminium production, according to a weekend announcement in Kingston, Jamaica.

The Japanese companies are Sumitomo Chemical, Nippon Light Metal, Kobe Steel, Maruben and Kangmatso-Gosho. Mr Michael Manley, Prime Minister, told a press conference they represented the first big Japanese investment in Jamaica's bauxite industry.

Also involved in the new agreement is Revere (Jamaica) Alumina, a subsidiary of Revere Copper and Brass Co.

Production at the Revere plant would be boosted by 341,000 tonnes to a new level of 571,000 tonnes a year, Mr Manley said. Revere will take up 117,000 tonnes of the expanded output and the Japanese the remaining 224,000 tonnes. Joint investment by Revere and the Japanese group will be about $100m (£43m).—Reuter.

Money supply growth highest since July

By Christopher Wilkins

The broadly defined version of the money supply (M3) rose last month by the largest amount since the exceptional jump seen in July. After expanding by ¾ per cent in September and October together it grew by 1¼ per cent or £430m in the five weeks up to November 21.

This increase was the result of a rise of almost £400m in domestic deposits held by banks and discount houses, although on a seasonally adjusted basis it comes down to £300m.

M1, the narrower version of the money supply, experienced more modest growth despite a steep increase in the note circulation, which is largely explained by the £10 Christmas bonus for pensioners. This apart, the increase in current account holdings was smaller than normal at this time of year. Overall, M1 rose by a seasonally adjusted £50m, equivalent to ½ per cent.

Until last month M1 had been showing more rapid growth than M3. Taking the last three months together, both versions have grown by 2 per cent which suggests that the money supply is still on a deflationary tack.

There was an increase of £465m in foreign currency deposits which mainly reflects the drawing of part of the $2,500m Eurocurrency loan arranged by the Treasury earlier this year. Overseas sterling deposits, by contrast, declined by £153m.

The loans to the Government are also reflected in the quarterly bank advances, where foreign currency loans of £623m in the United Kingdom in the three months to the middle of November compared with £235m of sterling lending over the same period.

Main thrust of the increase in non-Government loans was into the manufacturing sector, but the £622m rise in lending in this area was below the record level seen in the August quarter.

Loans to the financial sector rose by £101m, but within this total the increase in lending to property companies was low at only £26m.

Personal sector lending remained depressed. After rising by £88m during the previous quarter, it fell by £79m. This takes in a fall of £17m for house purchase, which is the first fall in this area for some years.

National Savings resilience: The National Savings movement was demonstrating a very high degree of resilience to pressures upon personal finance, Sir Robert Bellinger, president and chairman of the National Savings Committee said at the weekend.

Figures for the five weeks to November 30 show an outflow, exclusive of net accrued interest, of only £500,000, against £69.6m in November, 1973. Net accrued interest amounted to £23.9m.

Joint action call to avert 'calamity' on oil costs

By Melvyn Westlake

In the starkest analysis yet of the perilous situation created by the oil price increases, an authoritative group of monetary experts suggest there is very little time left in which to avert the calamity confronting the world community.

The experts, writing in an American quarterly journal, *Foreign Affairs*, say that the brinkmanship that has resulted from the oil price crisis, and particularly employed by the United States, is simply not a workable approach.

In the end all the countries will have to act in a reasonably concerted manner if solutions are to emerge. Effective solutions will almost certainly require major new methods and institutions, they argue.

In all likelihood, unless further approaches on cooperative action are made within the next few months, some oil importing countries will have run out of goods to sell, or markets to reach, or capacity to borrow to cover their deficits, and a number may be unable to meet the servicing costs on the enlarged debts.

Whether that would result in currency devaluations, in defaults by banking and business firms in those countries, in national debt moratoria, or in political revolution and debt repudiation, the entire structure of world payments and of trade and financial relationships, would certainly be fractured, the group say.

The experts include Mr Robert Roosa, Under Secretary of the United States Treasury for Monetary Affairs in 1961-64; Mr Khodadad Farmanfarmaian, chairman of the Development Industrial Bank of Iran; Professor Armin Gutowski, who is on the board of advisers to the Federal Economic Ministry, Germany; Mr Saburo Okita, chairman of the Japan Economic Research Centre, Tokyo; and Professor Carroll Wilson of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

They say that over the five years through 1975 to 1979, the world's oil-importing countries would pay the producers a total of at least $600,000m (about £270,000m). By contrast, the sum of all the merchandise exported last year by all the non-oil producers which are members of the International Monetary Fund was less than $500,000m.

The experts rule out energy conservation as an answer to the crisis, while increased trade with the oil producers would help only marginally, they say.

At the same time, if nations act individually it is not conceivable, the experts argue, that most of the oil importing countries can find inflows of capital to match their oil deficits. Moreover, even if the price of oil was reduced from $10 a barrel to $8 or even $6 a barrel, this would still not reduce the transfer burden of oil consumers to manageable proportions.

Some of these conclusions have been concealed from the public during the past year, the writers suggest. Although the public alarm of a year ago has waned, they believe that 1974 is likely to prove to have been an easy year.

The writers conclude that what is needed is a means of *assisting the direct flow of oil-producer funds into the capital formation that the world badly needs.* Here, they suggest, there might be scope for an investment trust or a family of trusts, organized and staffed by selected experts or firms with broad and tested investment experience—an "OPEC Mutual Investment Trust".

CBI moves to postpone part of higher effluent treatment costs

By Derek Harris

With evidence of rapidly rising costs of effluent treatment under the reorganized water authorities increasing, the Confederation of British Industry plans urgent talks aimed at postponing part of the burden.

While no bills for next year have gone out, informal consultations between water authorities and individual companies have indicated possible rises of as much as 500 per cent. One East Midland textile company has told the CBI it could face a 900 per cent rise if full adjustment was made in one year.

A typical 250-employee textile dyeing company would at present be paying up to £4,000 a year for effluent processing. A big pharmaceutical company could see its bills multiplying from a cost base of about £50,000.

Many engineering companies in the West Midlands have expressed disquiet to the regional CBI there because of the scale of costs involved.

The CBI has already sent a warning on the threat to industrial costs to the Department of the Environment, under whose aegis the 10 new water authorities operate. The CBI is anxious that steep increases should be phased over several years.

Mr Roy Martindale, technical adviser in the CBI's company affairs directorate, *said*: "What is causing the trouble is the rate at which individual water authorities seem to want to move in raising charges to cope with inflation and to equalize charges in their area.

"In the North-West and Thames areas, the policy adopted by the officers seems more in line with the recommendations of the Jukes Committee, which has suggested that equalization should be phased over a couple of years. They would not appear to be going for precipitate change or to act before they have talked it over with us."

He added: "Generally speaking there is a sad lack of proper information in some respects about the whole issue. Charges should reflect how much service is actually rendered to an individual company."

The CBI is particularly questioning the equitability of the basing of general service charges, levied in addition to a trade effluent charge, on ratable values.

There has been anxiety that the Severn-Trent Water Authority would bring in immediate rises next year which in some cases could mean a 500 per cent jump in charges. The authority has subsequently said *this would be undesirable* in one year and that discussions would continue on phasing the increases.

The CBI is calling talks of its members in that area for next month to add to evidence already collected of the possible extent of the increased cost problem. Further consultation with the Severn-Trent authority is then expected to be called for urgently.

Further talks with the North-West authority are scheduled for early January.

Water authorities have inherited substantial debts with high servicing charges from the many smaller authorities responsible for water supply and treatment until April last year. They are committed to extensive capital expenditure programmes, while inflation in wages and other costs have also hit their finances.

Mr Martindale added: "There are some areas—in the North-West and North-East for instance—where under the old regime, industrialists were waived effluent charges to encourage them to set up in development areas. We accept that in this sort of situation, companies will have to shoulder a fair share of the burden."

Trafalgar chief says property now overtaxed

By Our Financial Staff

The raison d'etre for a public company holding and developing investment property in this country seems no longer to hold, according to Mr Nigel Broackes, chairman of Trafalgar House Investments.

Writing in the company's annual report, Mr Broackes states that although this does not mean that today's leading companies will disappear or that their shares should be sold at today's depressed levels, the traditional property company is now to be taxed to such an extent that it becomes the least attractive medium through which to hold such investments.

Mr Broackes goes on to describe the new taxes on property as an over reaction by successive governments to a situation that no longer exists.

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Lending rate 11½ pc

The Bank of England's minimum lending rate will be held at 11½ per cent this week. The following are the results of Friday's Treasury Bill Tender:

Applications	£582m	Allotted	£250m
Bids at	£97.28½%	Received	13%
Prov Wk	£97.25¾%	Received	48%
Avg rate	£10.9902%	Prev week	£10.9941%
Next Friday	£250m	Replace	£120m

Japan backs NRDC carbon fibre patent

By Kenneth Owen
Technology Correspondent

Japan's Patent Office has ruled in favour of Britain's National Research Development Corporation on a basic patent covering the development of carbon fibres.

This should result in a significant increase in the corporation's income next year. Under a cross-licensing agreement with Tokai Electrode Co, the Japanese will now start paying licence fees to the NRDC.

The decision follows a long-fought battle in Japan in which indigenous companies have objected to the NRDC patent, filed in Japan in 1966. Active opposition began when the patent specifications were published in 1969.

Moreover the Japanese decision will mean additional security for Courtaulds, an NRDC licensee, which recently announced an agreement with Mitsubishi for the marketing of carbon fibre material in Japan.

A third implication is that possible infringements of the NRDC patent by other Japanese companies will be investigated. Sub-licensing arrangements by such companies with Tokai will clearly be a possibility.

Overall, the NRDC view is that the Japanese decision will strengthen the corporation's hand considerably.

Germany is the only major country in which the NRDC basic carbon fibre patent is still being opposed. In the United States legal action has been taken by the corporation against Great Lakes Corporation for alleged infringement; this action is still continuing.

The NRDC's patents cover original work by scientists at the Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough. After initial over-exposure as a "wonder material" some years ago, carbon fibre now seems set to become a substantial earner for the corporation.

Clifford Webb writes: The Department of Trade is testing an automatic distress transmitter and life support system for ships which if made compulsory equipment could end mysterious disappearances like the trawler Gaul. Known as the Search Initiator Buoy it is already being manufactured by Lucas Marine International, the Vancouver-based subsidiary of the Joseph Lucas group.

On other pages

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Corporate liquidity: the position now

Can it really be only two months ago since the talk was all of Doomsday Machines? Was Mr Healey's November mini-Budget so far reaching in its implications that it killed, at a stroke, all concern about how companies were going to fund their needs in 1975? Was the talk of a major liquidity crisis—indulged by the Bank of England, the CBI and at least one clearing bank in addition to the commentators—mere scare mongering?

In so far as the great liquidity debate was influential in persuading the Chancellor to provide some £1,600m for the corporate sector and to make £1,000m available in the form of medium term finance, the panic achieved its immediate objective. But it is open to question whether the Chancellor's move alone has served to calm shattered nerves. The £800m benefit from the changed tax treatment of stock appreciation brings a welcome boost to cash-flow. But how far industry will be able to take advantage of the price code modifications (notionally worth a further £800m) during a period of falling demand is uncertain.

Equally unclear is whether there will be any significant call by industry upon the £1,000m fund which Finance For Industry is to manage.

But if Mr Healey's measures go nowhere near far enough in the context of a financial deficit in the corporate sector variously forecast at between £3,000m and £4,000m, they have at least taken the situation off the boil. What heat remains is being steadily drained away by the slackening of economic activity.

This in itself, of course, is a by-product of corporate concern about its net cash position. The surplus of cash over expenditure built up during 1972 and 1973 turned into a yawning shortage this year with abnormal increases in the price of stocks being mostly to blame. According to the Bank of England, stock appreciation during the first half of 1974 comprised some 60 per cent of profits compared to only 10 per cent in 1968.

Impressive and alarming though these figures are, however, they have signally failed to generate the pressure on the banks that seemed certain some three or four months ago. As a significant supplier of funds the stock market has remained dead, yet, although the banks have remained effectively the sole source of funds for most companies, lending statistics remain flat. In September they actually showed a decline, although they have risen modestly since.

None of this is to suggest that there will not be formidable liquidity problems during 1975. On the contrary, it could point to even lower 1975 profits and therefore lower cash-flow. Even since the mini-Budget, for instance, Phillips & Drew has revised its forecast of profits before depreciation from an unchanged £13,700m to more like £15,200m. And although expenditure forecasts have also been downgraded—P & D is going for broadly unchanged investment in real terms—they do not fully offset the profit deterioration. So the financial deficit seen on this basis could rise from £3,900m to £4,200m.

The key point, however, is that the relative lag in bank lending during the second half of the present year should leave the banks with a greater margin for stepping-up their lending next year. In his Budget, the Chancellor decided to stick with the "deposit corset" arrangements, introduced at the end of last year, for at least another six months. Under this scheme the banks have recently been allowed to expand their interest-bearing deposits by 1½ per cent a month, but because of the comparatively slack demand have actually fallen far short of this ceiling. By mid-November the "corset" allowed them to expand by 15½ per cent but deposits had actually only grown by 9.1 per cent. With this leeway available to be caught up next year the system as currently structured looks capable of weathering the storm.

So it should not be surprising that bankers are entering 1975 with rather more confidence about their ability to meet industry's financing needs than they were exhibiting three months ago. There will still be deep soulsearching within individual banks about the level of individual customers' overdrafts, but the pattern of recent business could point to most banks ending the present year with their balance-sheets showing less visible strain than previously feared.

1974: How gold led the way

South Africa's gold mining sector is unique in its performance during 1974. It is the only one where all constituents achieved a meaningful increase in share prices. These range from a mere 31 per cent at Buffelsfontein to 400 per cent at Witwatersrand Nigel which is closely geared to the bullion price.

At the beginning of the year the metal price was $112½ an ounce. Mining shares reached their peak on April 3 when for a few days gold fluctuated around the then record $175 to $180 level.

If you can look back on any purchases in the equity market over the past year with anything less than anguish and dismay, then you are not only exceptionally shrewd, well-informed and quick off the mark, but also preternaturally lucky. The latter quality was absolutely essential for making money in United Kingdom equities last year. For where the commodity markets offered thrills as well as spills, and the losses for those who invested their savings in the space under the mattress was limited to the rate of inflation, holders of virtually every variety of equity have come out badly in nominal as well as real terms. In fact, of just over two-and-a-half thousand shares quoted in London, precisely 94 were changing hands at the end of last week at a price higher than that at which they were selling at the beginning of the year;

Investors only had a sporting chance if they looked to Germany. There the market has risen 4 per cent ahead, reflecting hopes of reflation and Arab buying interest. Moreover, British investors will have had the benefit of both the increase in the dollar premium and the appreciation of the mark.

At home there were one or two somewhat eccentric property redevelopment situations, such as Edinburgh Ice Rink, where "in view of the uncertainty concerning the future development of the Haymarket area and of the necessity to ensure the future of curling in the city, the board have applied for outline planning permission for the existing site". As with Arms Park Greyhound, Scottish Ice Rink and Dundee Ice Rink, much of the secret of the share's movement against the market lies in capitalization so small that it is extremely difficult to buy a stake at all.

That apart, making money was largely a matter of being in the right shares when takeover hopes crystallized—that or going short. At Manchester Liners there was Eurocanadian Shipholdings' 155p per share cash offer, while at Reardon Smith bid hopes have sprung from steady Panamanian buying. Bid or merger situations likewise lie behind the appreciation in the shares of Albright and Wilson and Gallaher, as well as that in the shares of Union & Rhodesian Mining, Sadia, Lye Trading and CAST.

Meanwhile, the "weevils" have been doing well. As the sector performance table indicates, it would have been almost as difficult to lose money by selling last year as it was to make it by buying. Both tables of losers reflect the fate which has overtaken property developers and speculators and financial institutions

The lesson of these developments is worth spelling out, particularly at a time when the equity market seems to be feeling its way towards a new base for indiscriminate advance. It is that, for any hope of consistent success, the essential quality is flexibility—not only in the choice of share, but also in the type of investment itself.

Large companies (capitalization over £10m)

Company	% Change
FT All-share index	−55
Top Ten	
Manchester Liners	+258
Reardon Smith	+212
Albright & Wilson	+61
Consolidated Goldfields	+19
Gallaher	+16
Lonrho	+7
Consolidated African Sel Trust	+6
Highlands and Lowlands	+5
Furness Withy	−2
Selection Trust	−4
Bottom Ten	
Keyser Ullmann	−83
Bernard Sunley	−83
United Dominions Trust	−83
Capital & Counties	−82
Hambros Full Pd	−80
Thomson Organisation	−80
Town & City Properties	−78
Thorn Electrical Industries	−76
BSR	−76
J. Lyons "A"	−75

All companies.

Company	% Change
Top Ten	
Manchester Liners	+258
Reardon Smith	+212
Union & Rhodesian Mining	+150
Caroni	+137
Arms Park Greyhound	+131
Edinburgh Ice Rink	+110
Isle of Man Railway	+100
Sadia	+100
Lubok Investments	+90
Lye Trading	+80
Bottom Ten	
Lane Fox	−94
Greensquare	−93
Joviel Properties	−93
Lyon & Lyon	−91
Bank & Commercial	−90
Dowgate & General	−90
Edward Bates	−90
William Whittingham	−90
British Land	−90
Penrad Group	−89

Sectors

Name	% Change
Top Five	
Shipbuilding	−17
UK Registered Mines	−27
Tobacco	−39
Discount Houses	−39
Shipping	−42
Bottom Five	
Gaming and stadiums	−64
Wool textiles	−64
Insurance: Life	−64
Insurance brokers	−62
Radio and TV rental	−62

Source: dataSTREAM International.

Gold mines

Mine	% Change
The Times Gold Mining share index	+78
Top Five	
Wit Nigel	+400
Govt Areas	+337
Rand Leases	+275
Venterspost	+257
SA Land	+223

Hugh Stephenson

Setting up a 'Coventry' in the City

As they look back over the past 12 months, the gentlemen of the Takeover Panel might come to the conclusion that their potentially most difficult case has been the one involving Miss Penny Brahms. For the attractive Miss Brahms, who has had a tougher life than most, has come closer than any yet to an open challenge to the Panel's authority.

Since the whole system of self-regulation in the City is based on acceptance of the umpire's decision by all concerned, if Miss Brahms were to have persisted in her attitude, she could have reduced the umpire to the status of a mere referee, whose decisions are challenged or ignored and who lacks the power to book or send off. In short, a serious situation would have arisen.

There has of late been a new rush of manifestos in favour of regulation by the City of its own. The only concession generally made is that the Government should take action to make "insider trading" a criminal offence. But, although much is made of the calls for statutory regulation and a British version of the American Securities and Exchange Commission, there seems in fact to be remarkably little force behind them. Labour administrations, as a matter of historical record, have been loath to involve Whitehall at all deeply in the regulation of the City. The reasons range from the practical to the political.

Whitehall has neither the staff nor the experience to do the job efficiently and a prudent Secretary of State for Trade does not lightly put himself in a position where he will have to take detailed responsibility for and answer daily questions about the securities industry.

Since, in the eyes of most Labour MPs, the securities industry involves one lot of Tories selling shares to another lot of Tories, there has never been the same interest in this particular aspect of possible government regulation as in others. (In marked contrast, there has been keen Labour interest in the regulation of such things as insurance, or the package holiday industry.)

Indeed, when the Takeover Panel Mark 1 was overwhelmed, there was no more effective opponent of Whitehall regulation of the City than Mr Anthony Crosland, then President of the Board of Trade.

The central problem, however, remains how to avoid a situation, the likelihood of which can only increase over time, where the Panel's authority is challenged: but to do so in a way which does not require volumes of new legislation and armies of new policemen. I understand that some legal minds, grappling with these problems, have turned to the possibilities inherent in the Prevention of Fraud (Investments) Act, 1958.

This Act, amongst other things, sets out the provisions for licensing those who deal in securities, including those for the refusal and revocation of a licence. The notion is that a sanction could be applied to those who defy the authority of the Takeover Panel, indirectly but effectively, by small modifications of this Act. At present the Department of Trade can revoke the licence of any dealer in securities w[ho] commits a breach of the rules made [by] the Department under the Act.

It is suggested that, in future, o[ne] of these rules might be that no one sh[ould] conduct businesses with a person w[ho] defies the Takeover Panel. There ar[e] of course, all the traditional problem[s] of British or Swiss nominees acting f[or] the banned person, but it is probab[ly] true that official exclusion from t[he] British securities market would be a[n] effective sanction at the joint dispos[al] of the Takeover Panel and the Depar[t]ment of Trade, simple in the extren[e] to administer.

The Act would then be used to for[ce] the City collectively to send an offend[er] to financial Coventry. Usefully, the A[ct] already contains its own appeals pr[o]cedure in the form of a special tribun[al] of inquiry. Thus someone who dealt f[or] or with the offender and was stru[ck] off, would not be subject to entire[ly] Star Chamber justice. It is an aven[ue] worth exploring, for certain it is th[at] the underlying problem will not [go] away.

Trans-national institutions: a way towards solving global crisis of resources

Rapid use of the world's resources by industrialized countries, accelerating increases in the populations of developing countries, the widening gap between the living standards of the two groups of countries, and growing poverty, starvation and unemployment in the latter may lead to disaster.

Given the inter-dependence between all countries and regions, global management of the world's resources is needed. The unorganized and unbalanced use of resources, by competing nations and private enterprises, to gain short term advantages, is producing crisis situations which interact and reinforce each other, creating a global crisis.

If we do not start to develop global solutions now, those forced upon us in twenty to thirty years time will be far more costly—economically, and in terms of human suffering—and it may then be too late to prevent disasters, or wars between groups competing for the world's limited resources.

These are the conclusions to be drawn from the new report to the Club of Rome, *Mankind at the Turning Point*,* by Professor Mihalid Mesarovic of Cleveland, Ohio, and Professor Eduard Pestel of Hanover University

It is possible to distinguish a number of emerging crisis situations:

Strong demand in many industrialized countries (temporarily weakening now) has produced *excess global demand for raw materials and food*, inflation and imbalance (and, therefore, unemployment) and over rapid use of depletable resources.

The *energy crisis* has similar effects, dependence on cheap oil having distorted economic development and made necessary abrupt structural changes and rapid exploitation of new sources of energy.

Population increases in some developing countries are overtaking food production and the creation of jobs and leading to starvation and unemployment.

The gap between the living standards of the industrialized and the developing countries is widening and driving the poorest populations to despair.

Pollution, is increasing and some of it may be causing irreparable damage to the *environment* (for example, products accumulating in the atmosphere may endanger health and affect the climate).

There is an *institutional crisis*, because economic and political institutions have failed to adapt to world interdependence.

A growing area of economic development is outside government's control.

The international institutions do not ensure the coordinated action of governments. The international trade and payments systems are ineffective and subject to dislocation by small political groups.

A psychological and sociological crisis is developing because people do not feel responsible for the vast and complex system, material and organizational, of the industrial society: it is difficult to make parliamentary democracy work.

The potential dangers in such crises were summed up by Dr Kissinger in an interview with *The New York Times* on October 12. "If we do not get a recognition of our interdependence", he said, "the Western civilization that we now have is almost certain to disintegrate, because it will first lead to a series of rivalries in which each region will try to maximize its own special advantages.

"That, inevitably, will lead to tests of strength of one sort or another. These will magnify domestic crises in many countries, and they will then move more and more to authoritarian models.

"I would expect then that we will certainly have crises which no leadership is able to deal with, and probably military confrontations. But even if you do not have military confrontations, you will certainly, in my view, have systemic crises, similar to those of the twenties and thirties, but under conditions when world consciousness has become global."

Public awareness of global problems and of the interactions between them has been promoted by the Club of Rome, an informal group of about one hundred scientists, economists, humanists, industrialists, etc, from about thirty countries, founded in 1968 by Dr Alexander King and Dr Aurelio Peccei.

An earlier report sponsored by it, *The Limits to Growth*, by Professor Meadows (published in 1972), must have given substance to the disquiet of many people, since four million copies have been sold.

The Club of Rome's reports are sometimes criticized as doom predictions, based on fallacious, Malthusian and Ricardian economics. But they do not predict the future. They make projections, designed to reveal the dangers and provoke the policy responses which will ensure that the projections will not be realized.

The computer model of the world (divided into 10 regions) on which the new report is based, contains a causal stratum of 100,000 equations concerning technical factors. It also has a decision stratum, permitting the programming of judgments concerning possible economic, social and political reactions to alternative developments and policies.

Thus it provides policymakers with an efficient instrument, taking account of interactions between an enormous number of variables which can reveal potential crises and the full implications of alternative policies.

The report projects over the next fifty years the development of several major crises. Its projection of the crisis developing in South Asia, due to population increases, food shortage and too slow development, shows that, on present trends and making optimistic assumptions about increased use of fertilizers, cultivation of arable land, etc, widespread starvation would begin in the 1980s and grow rapidly.

The only effective combination of remedial polices would include: drastic population control, massive agricultural and industrial investment aid, large food transfers and discrimination in world markets in favour of the exports of this region—a set of policies outside the reach of international cooperation.

Such projections also reveal that some solutions are impractical, due to repercussions in other sectors. For example, the food shortage cannot be solved "simply" by raising agricultural productivity in the developing countries to its level in, say, The Netherlands. Production of the additional fertilizers and irrigation water would consume more energy than the present total energy output.

Economists make two main criticisms concerning such projections. First, assumptions about reserves of raw materials and technological possibilities are based on present knowledge and will be proved wrong, because new reserves, products and processes will be discovered.

Second, the projections are based on current relative prices and scarcities, and under-estimate the fall in consumption and the development of substitutes, as products become scarcer and dearer.

Such defects are inherent in long-term projections. They do not make the projections in the new report less valuable as warnings of the need for policy changes.

Can we be sure that new products, new processes and substitutes will be found *in time* to avoid disasters, without excessive economic and social costs? Despite the enormous margins of error in the projections, we have no choice but to use them as guides—to the need to conserve existing resources and distribute them better and to the direction of research into future possibilities.

The time lags make this necessary. The lead-in for technological developments (from their conception to large scale operation or production) is around 30 years. And in little more than 30 years the world population will have doubled. Can the capacity of the infrastructure — food, housing, health, education, etc, be doubled in three decades?

Are we prepared to leave the choice between solutions to competing private enterprises and governments, concerned with short term benefits and with little regard for long term costs? There are major social and political options underlying alternative techniques.

Some countries are developing nuclear energy to replace oil. If the technically attractive fast-breeder reactors, which accumulate plutonium 239, rapidly become the main source of energy, this will mean building many large nuclear power stations and transporting vast quantities of plutonium 239, an extremely dangerous poison.

That will involve accepting a highly centralized and controlled society, with powerful police and military forces to protect it against pollution and destruction, due to accident or sabotage.

Should we let short-term, technical considerations decide this issue? Or should we start now to plan the development of solar energy in dispersed, safe, pollution free units, permitting decentralized and democratic forms of society?

Ordinary men and women may doubt their influence on such issues. They have in fact a key role. Public understanding of the issues is the necessary first step towards action by governments which, naturally, tend to defend national, not global, interests.

Earlier this year a dozen heads of state and prime ministers discussed long term wor[ld] problems with the executi[ve] committee of the Club of Ro[me] at a meeting in Austria und[er] the chairmanship of Dr Bru[no] Kreisky, the Chancellor. The[y] were clearly conscious of th[e] global problems and ready [to] act as quickly as public opini[on] would allow.

In the interview referred [to] earlier, Dr Kissinger said th[at] the broad long term issues ha[d] to be decided, more or le[ss] intuitively, by the nation[al] leaders, because it took too lo[ng] to explain them to parliame[nts] and the public. That is [a] dangerous practice.

There should be more publi[c] debate and more explanation [to] the public by statesmen. Govern[]ments will aim less at short ter[m] political and material gains an[d] more at long term advantage[s] for later generations, only [if] public opinion leads the way.

We should no longer rely o[n] existing types of internationa[l] institutions. Global problem[s] require global institutions. F[or] most people in industrial coun[]tries, the nation state is th[e] point of identification in worl[d] problems, while for the develop[]ing countries it symbolizes thei[r] newly acquired political inde[]pendence.

But, though we cannot dis[]pense with the nation state, mus[t] we confine our handling o[f] world problems to the tw[o] dimensions of cooperation be[]tween nation states in inter[]national institutions? W[e] should start to explore one thir[d] dimension of trans-nationa[l] institutions.

For each major global prob[]lem, a trans-national institutio[n] is needed, to work out solutio[ns] in the long term common inter[]ests. The new institution nee[d] not, at the start, have powers o[f] decision. But, at least, gover[n]ments should be obliged t[o] explain the reasons, if they fa[il] to follow its recommendation[s].

Ian Lesag[e]

* Published by E. P. Dutton an[d] Company Inc—Readers Dige[st] Press, New York and distribute[d] by Hutchinson and Compan[y] who will print a United King[]dom edition early in 1975.

Business Diary in Europe • A matter of conscience

Government planning in Italy has had an unhappy history. The state planning office, which comes under the Budget Ministry, is responsible for two voluminous five-year plans, for 1966-70 and 1971-75, but their targets have turned out to belong more to the world of dreams than reality.

Recently the head of Government Planning, Signor Giorgio Ruffolo, a Socialist, resigned in despondency at the way successive governments have disregarded the work of his office.

Now an eminent economist, Professor Paolo Sylos Labini, has announced his resignation from the planning office's technical and scientific committee, a consultative body composed of leading specialists in their fields. He has motived his decision on moral grounds—a rare event in Italian public life.

Data research

One way for large organizations to keep ahead of advances in data-processing technology is for them to subscribe to communal research programmes mounted by the big consultancies. And one of the best-known of these is the Diebold Research Programme, which operates both in the United States and in Europe.

For long the mainstay of the European Diebold operation has been one Henry Sherwood, a highly efficient German-born American who has run the show from Frankfurt.

Now Sherwood has decided to move on to other things, at present unspecified, and his successor is David Butler, director of operations for Diebold in London. Butler is an articulate computerman, previously with the Urwick consultancy, who has been an occasional contributor to *The Times*.

One of Butler's tasks will be to maintain the frighteningly high standard of organization of Diebold's European conferences, which form the backbone of the research programme. Until one has attended a Sherwood conference, one attender avers, one has not really conferred at all.

This was taken to a bizarre level at a recent meeting at the Heathrow hotel at London Airport. The conference hall here is equipped with bunker-like rows of electronic consoles behind which the audience hide. It is just possible for them to peer over the consoles at the platform speaker, but the system is designed for them to watch him on their personal video screens.

Part of the programme was a recording of a Sherwood interview with a computing expert. For about ten minutes, the hall was silent, as the audience listened over headphones to the interview—and viewed the platform speaker, also listening over his headphones, via their video screens.

Perhaps Butler will delete this refinement. Meanwhile, back in London, George Cox, senior consultant, has succeeded Butler in managing Diebold's United Kingdom office.

David Butler: articulate computerman.

Paper problem

A load of old rubbish it may be, but wastepaper is nowadays big business. Michael Mead, Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Industry, and members of the advisory group on wastepaper recycling spent an instructive few days last week taking a closer look at how the Dutch collect and recycle their wastepaper and board.

The Dutch manage to collect some 38.5 per cent of the paper they use, compared with 26 per cent in the United Kingdom. Holland, together with Belgium, is traditionally a used paper exporting country.

The general shortage of raw materials has sent the price of used paper rocketing, and it has become important enough for Dutch Members of Parliament to lodge questions and for Rudolf Lubbers, Dutch Minister of Economic Affairs, to instruct those of his civil servants who are not busy chasing the ghost of inflation through the corridors of power to see how the wastepaper industry can be stabilized.

A couple of months ago waste paper was worth nearly 4p a kilo in The Netherlands. A hefty Saturday paper—the Dutch still do not have Sunday papers—was worth second-hand almost as much as you pay for it.

The enthusiasm for collecting paper reached such heights that paper boys were robbed on their rounds, delivery vans dared not leave papers outside newsagents, and sprightly little old ladies were caught nabbing the papers from the letter boxes in flats.

But the used paper merchants have run out of storage room and the market has virtually collapsed. Used paper now fetches less than 1p a kilo, but many collectors are hoarding garages full of wastepaper, hoping for better times.

The Dutch, according to the minister, are considering following the Japanese example and introducing measures to stabilize the used paper market. This could be a guaranteed minimum price, or an agreement to store a percentage of the paper in government silos if the price fell.

Mr Mead returned to England fully briefed in the art of paper recycling. Perhaps he might try it with a few pound notes.

Free trips

One of the American State Department's happier ideas was to institute a series of free, month-long trips to the United States for Europeans and others genuinely involved in relations between their country and America.

The so-called "leader grants" have been dished out particularly generously to Brussels Eurocrats and journalists and have undoubtedly increased understanding of the endless variety of the United States and sympathy for some of its problems.

With the Germans showing the way with a reciprocal programme, there was considerable pressure for the EEC to do likewise. An experimental phase began recently, and the European Commission has now decided to boost numbers for the 1975 programme and to make it available to Canadians as well as Americans. As with the leader grants, the main beneficiaries will be politicians, journalists, trade unionists, economists, sociologsts and civil servants.

All travel to EEC institutions and through the member states will be paid, as well as allowances. Let's hope they will be as efficiently organized as the American operation.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

.anguage as a tool for excluding others

om Mr Alan Topalian

·, To add to Mr Younger's nments on the different lan- ages used by management d unions (December 2), lan- age is not only a tool for nmunication, but also a tool exclusion: it represents a ans of access hence mem- ship, much like U beha- ur indicates acceptability to ranks of a particular class.

fany specialist groups ive a professional language facilitate communication hin their groups. In so ng, they tend to erect bar- 's to communication be- en disparate groups.

rofessional languages, un- : others, bring with them : of attitudes. Many of these tudes are "received" by ners rather than critically pted; many are conveyed conversation whether the aker believes them or not.

urthermore, professional guages can lead to intellec- apathy and inflexibility: ing made and expressed a ision in a particular terminology, the implementation of that decision indicates certain results and implications. When several groups are involved in the implementation of decisions—each using different languages and possibly anticipating alternative results—there can be cause for misunderstanding leading to conflict. The use of language in this manner sustains divisions.

Inflexibility in management thinking must be expected to lead to a downgrading of the individual and the leader. Invariably, the individual leader will stretch management outside the confines of their language, which is difficult territory. Or he will require management to confirm the practical acceptance of attitudes associated with the language they use which, if unadopted, can be very inconvenient.

Effective leadership stretches the performance of a company by extending its capacity for, and acceptance of, change. Individuals/leaders frequently suggest extensive changes and, because they are "outsiders", tend to have thought through these strategies very carefully. It is, therefore, sad to find these strategies so often brushed aside in favour of less extensive, half-baked ideas which prove more problematic in the long-term.

British business has never really encouraged the individual/leader. Our concern is mainly in "playing the game", not in "getting things done". Unfortunately, what was once a single game (making profits almost unhindered), has now burgeoned into several games; even the rules of the original have changed.

Our inability to cope effectively with this dynamic situation says as much for the quality of our leadership as for the quality of thinking throughout: heads, hearts, hands and feet.

ALAN TOPALIAN,
52 Green Acres,
Croydon CRO 5UX

'uel economy of Wankel ngine can be competitive

m Mr R. F. Ansdale

I should like to comment on H. Shaw's remarks on the economy of the Wankel ne, reported by Kenneth n in your November 29 e.

› begin with it seems that assessment concerning heat es due to the large surface being exposed to the gases res the relatively large rotor ks which are the equivalent piston crown. It seems that Shaw grossly over-simplifies over-emphasizes the significe of rather difficult to deine gas velocities in Wankel nes, the rotor of which s at only one-third shaft d.

ie best specific fuel conption figures to date for a kel engine—with emission rols—amount to about 0.47 HP/hr (at least as good as shown for a conventional ıl engine in Mr Shaw's dia- ı) not to 0.67 and 0.78 lb/ /hr as stated.

ere can be no doubt that GM decision to postpone the duction of Wankel-powered cars was prompted by the culties of achieving and taining for 50,000 miles or the stringent emission ations stipulated in the ed States for 1977. It is ficant that automobile facturers all over the l are seeking relaxations of espective regulations be- compliances, if possible, only be achieved at the ex- of much greater fuel contion.

In discussions with the Japanese Environmental Agency, Toyo Kogyo, the manufacturers of Mazda cars, stated that they had achieved 0.3 g/km (0.483 g/mile) for nitrogen oxides emission and could assure with current technology 0.7 g/km (1.12 g/mile), as compared with a minimum of 0.9 g/km (1.44 g/mile) proposed by manufacturers of conventional piston engines.

Moreover, the latest Mazda cars marketed now have a 20 per cent lower fuel consumption than they had earlier, and a further 20 per cent reduction has been achieved on test.

GM stated that the fuel consumption of their Wankel-powered cars was at the same level as that of equal output reciprocating piston engines.

Surely the above is sufficient reason for devoting additional time to research and development, especially as President Ford asked for a 40 per cent reduction in the fuel consumption of cars.

Those involved in Wankel engine development agree that far from needing to "circumvent the elementary laws of physics", there are no fundamental reasons why the Wankel engine should not achieve highly competitive fuel consumption even when complying with emission control requirements.

R. F. ANSDALE
Technical consultant
Wankel GmbH
12 Roundwood Grove,
Hutton Mount,
Shenfield, Essex.

ıy large pay settlements are made

Mr J. H. Birkett

he main reasons why com- , even when in cash diffi- s, are still prepared to large wage settlements are the high rate of corpor- tax and the large differ- between that rate and the ırd income tax rate.

sider a firm with profits 0,000 and pressure to pay 10,000 of that in extra . If it refuses the wage it will bear tax on 00 at 52 per cent, leaving ı £48,000. If it accepts the claim, it will bear tax on 0 at 52 per cent, leaving ı £43,200. The difference ,800 is the effective cost firm of giving its em- s a gross benefit of 0.

en together with the avoid- of what is still ludicrously "industrial action" (even by you, Sir) such a cost could easily be considered a prudent investment.

Bearing tax at 33 per cent, the employees will be left with £6,700 of their £10,000 which is still substantially more than the net cost to their firm.

Let us now combine the corporation and individual tax payments. The firm resisting the wage claim would pay £52,000 corporation tax. The firm accepting the claim would pay £46,800 corporation tax, and its employees £3,300 income tax, total, £50,100.

In short, our fiscal system positively encourages managers in the attitude "better to pay now in wages rather than later in taxes".

J. H. BIRKETT
53 Roseland Avenue,
Hoddesdon,
Herts.

Bank support operation

From Mr P. M. Forrester

Sir, The official bank support operation was set up a year ago to deal with the consequences of a savage rise in interest rates following an unprecedented inflation. At that time it was looked on by those responsible as a holding operation that could be brought to an end once confidence was restored.

However, a few months later, the then Conservative Government brought in savage measures of property taxation and rent restriction that must have turned illiquidity into insolvency over a wide field.

Then in its first Budget the Labour Government introduced equally severe measures of company taxation and price and profit control that seriously intensified the fall in capital values already in progress. The last mentioned measures were very modestly relieved in the latest Budget, but are generally agreed still to be at a level that must make impossible the proper functioning of the private sector.

If this is all the relief that can be given in respect of all these stringent measures, then it must be assumed that the need for the support operation will continue to grow, and there can never be an end to it.

Yours faithfully,
P. M. FORRESTER,
1 King William Street,
London. EC4.

Packaging costs

From Mr H. Kendall

Sir, Mr Fisher's comments (December 10) on the Price Commission's reference to the "high cost of packaging" may give the impression that the reference was to printed packaging or other packaging materials, but this is not the case.

The Federation has been assured by the Commission that it made no separate assessment of the cost of packaging as such. Although the Commission found that prepacked foods are dearer than other foods, they are often of higher quality and their cost includes preparing the food for packaging (for example, slicing, trimming, washing etc) as well as the material used to protect and identify the contents.

Yours faithfully,
HENRY KENDALL, Director,
British Printing Industries Federation,
11 Bedford Row,
London, WC1R 4DX.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Trafalgar will emerge with greater strength when better times come

By Our Financial Staff

Following up his forecast earlier in the month that the current year would produce pre-tax profits not less than £19.6m achieved in 1973/74, Mr Nigel Broackes indicates in the Trafalgar House Investments annual report that any increase in profits in the current year is unlikely to be more than a minor one.

But he adds that there is the prospect of something more significant in the following year and goes on to say that "we may by now be among the rather small minority who look forward to emerging with much-increased strength when things get better".

Moreover, despite the present economic problems, Mr Broackes states that the company is hopeful that significant profits growth will recommence shortly, and he goes on to suggest that a significant programme for the redistribution of major assets will support this prediction. The redeployment of assets would lead to interest savings and reinvestment for higher yields, possibly through the cash acquisition of certain key enterprises.

Commenting on the expectations for individual divisions, Mr Broackes says that the prospect for the contracting operations over the next few years is one of sustained and substantial increases in profit. Although it seemed likely that 1976 would see a shortage of traditional United Kingdom work in view of the number of projects that were now being abandoned at the planning stage, there was an increasing volume of work for North Sea and other energy projects as well as a dramatic increase in the level of overseas orders.

In shipping, Trafalgar is expecting a satisfactory outcome on its cargo operations this year and some recovery in its passenger operations too. But although the group is expecting results from its hotel division to be less disappointing than 1973/74, it is not looking for any significant recovery before 1976 at the earliest.

Specialization paying off for Williams Lea

By continued specialization the Williams Lea Group of printing companies improved pre-tax profits 29 per cent to £406,000 out of sales 18 per cent higher, at £4.59m over the 12 months to September 29. Earnings rose from 5.54p to 6.36p a share.

Mr David Donne, chairman, says profitability has been further improved by continuing concentration on specialized markets. Given reasonable trading conditions the company is aiming for further gain once the present programme of market changes has been completed.

The group consists of eight printing companies in London and the South-East and its main activities include financial and City printing.

Stronger N Sea base for Esso

To provide a more substantial base for its exploration and production in the North Sea, Esso Petroleum and Esso Exploration and Production, both Exxon subsidiaries, are to make certain financial changes.

Esso Petroleum, through which all loan funds from the parent for UK offshore operation have been channelled, will make a distribution of £97m from reserves in the form of an assignment of part of the loan it has made to the exploration company. At the same time Exxon will arrange to strengthen the reserves of the exploration company

The total investment in the United Kingdom by the parent will be unchanged and the United Kingdom balance of payments will not be affected.

Black-Clawson back in profits

There is a return to profits at Black-Clawson International after six months' trading. On turnover up from £1.1m to £2.05m, this paper mill machinery maker—which is controlled by a United States company—has turned a loss of £73,000 into a profit of £49,000. This is after an upturn in business which has provided almost doubled shipments for the 1974 half.

The board notes that in spite of the generally pessimistic forecast for industry, interest in group products is encouraging.

Adda's half-time loss

Shares of Adda International dropped 2p on the news of a loss at half time of £169,000, against a profit of £247,000. Sales increased from £1.9m to £2.6m.

The board comments that the two half years are not strictly comparable because 1973 included sales of £527,000 and profits of £85,000 from subsidiaries since sold.

Consideration of a dividend has been deferred until the year-end, although a payment of 0.6p was paid last year.

Business in the second half has been running at a higher level than was enjoyed last term.

Briefly

CHARTERHOUSE IN GERMANY
Charterhouse Development, a part of Charterhouse Group, has acquired minority in Handels-und-Gewerbe-Verlag Klaus Eickenberg, German publisher.

ARMITAGE & RHODES
Start-up costs in tufting division kept interim profits at £176,000 (£208,000). Sales rose 14 per cent to £2.04m.

CAPSEALS
For £300,000 cash company acquiring business of Nathanial Lloyd, subsidiary of Hanson Trust. Business is manufacture of tear tape for packaging industry.

HELENE OF LONDON
For an initial £450,000 Great Moor Fashions, blouse makers, to be acquired.

MUIRHEAD
Sir Raymond Brown, chairman and managing director, now has total stake of over 10 per cent, including family interests.

Business appointments

Mr Chataway joins BET board

Mr Christopher Chataway, the fromer MP and a managing director of Orion Bank, is to join the board of The British Electric Traction Company.

Sir Charles Johnston and Mr R. K. Ledsom have been appointed directors of British Australian Investment Trust. Mr R. P. J. Bleichroeder has become a director of Drayton Commercial Investment, Drayton Consolidated Trust and Drayton Premier Investment Trust. Mr M. E. Harrison is appointed a director of Colonial Securities Trust and Mr R. W. C. Colvill has become a director of British Industries and General Investment Trust. All the companies are managed by Drayton Montagu Portfolio Management.

Mr Charles Anthony Willetts is to become managing director of the tube division of Ductile Steels.

Mr C. P. Sweet is to become managing director of Henry Simon of Stockport. Mr R. M. Stott is appointed director and general manager, and Mr E. A. Stanger, sales director, of the cereal milling division; Mr K. Cook, director and general manager of the food engineering division; Mr F. R. Holland, finance director.

Mr A. R. G. Standing has been appointed an assistant general manager of the British Bank of the Middle East from January 1. He will be succeeded as London manager by Mr D. W. Paterson.

Mr Richard T. Richardson has been appointed head of Chemical Bank's northern European region. He retains the post of vice president and general manager of the bank's UK operations.

Mr W. J. Tozer has joined the board of Citicorp International Bank.

Mr John W. Heilshorn, Mr George Vojta and Mr Robert B. White have become executive vice-presidents of First National City Bank in New York.

Mr Fred G. Ault has been appointed managing director of Concise Tools, a subsidiary of the George Salter Group.

Mr W. McEwan is appointed managing director of Pringle of Scotland, part of Dawson International. Mr M. J. Collins is appointed marketing director and Mr J. S. Swan is production director. Mr B. Bain becomes managing director of Ballantyne Sportswear.

Mr B. R. Loveridge has become a director of Buck and Hickman.

Mr J. G. Collins is to join the boards of John Crowther Group and John Crowther and Sons (Milnsbridge).

Mr W. J. Mundy is appointed to the board of Kleinwort, Benson.

Mr G. M. Cox has joined the board of Boosey and Hawkes as group finance director in succession to Mr John Little, who has retired. Mr G. W. King is appointed group secretary. Mr R. A. Fell becomes managing director of Boosey and Hawkes Music Publishers and Mr A. P. Pool is deputy managing director. Mr H. N. Lemon and Mr A. J. Arnold have joined the board. Mr E. W. Norton is appointed chairman and Mr R. Frost managing director of Boosey and Hawkes (Retail). Mr J. D. Burns joins the board.

Mr N. G. Spiers has been appointed London manager of the Commonwealth Banking Corporation; Mr D. H. Fuller becomes manager (administration) and Mr D. C. Powell is appointed manager (international).

Mr John Wall, chief economist for British Aluminium, has been elected chairman for the next two years of the statistics committee of the European Primary Aluminium Association.

Mr William Harrison-Cripps becomes a director of Preferential Investment Trust.

Mr Patricy Bessemer, a director of Bland Payne (UK), has been appointed to the board of Bland Payne Dineen.

Mr A. W. Miller is to be managing director of Peters Slippers.

Mr J. Alan Lamond has resigned as a director of the Redman Heenan International on taking up an appointment with the World Bank in Washington.

Mr W. H. Bell is to be finance director of Reyrolle Parsons following the resignation of Mr A. Morris at the end of this month.

Mr D. B. Clark becomes finance director of LCP Holdings.

Mr P. W. Watson joins the board of Burtonwood Brewery (Forshaws).

Mr D. W. Small and Mr P. N. Whitley have been appointed directors of Distillers Company.

Mr J. G. Collins is joining the board of John Crowther Group and also the board of John Crowther & Sons (Milnsbridge).

The following members of Sun Life's executive are to become directors of the Sun Life Assurance Society: Mr Clifford Combes, who becomes deputy general manager; Mr Peter Bairstow, actuary, and Mr Richard Zamboni, chief accountant and secretary.

Mr Warren Hutchings becomes managing director of Merrill Lynch-Brown Shipley Bank.

Mr Timothy Redman has been made a director of Greene, King (Biggleswade).

Mr Holman Hunt has been elected president of the Institute of Management Consultants.

Mr T. W. Lindsay and Mr P. W. Larson have joined the board of Ortho Pharmaceutical.

Mr Eric Scantlebury is to retire as chairman of UBM Group in February but will remain on the board as a non-executive director. He will be succeeded by Mr Michael Phillips, who will retain his responsibility as joint managing director.

Following the purchase of Welfare Insurance by London & Manchester Assurance and National Westminster Bank, the new board of directors will be: Mr Lewis Whyte (chairman), Mr H. L. K. Browne, Mr D. A. L. Jubb (actuary), Mr T. McMillan, Mr P. J. Jacobs, Mr John Owen, Mr A. E. Phillips (managing director) and Mr D. H. Baker (deputy managing director).

Mr Bernard Cordon has joined the board of Royal Doulton Tableware.

Mr Tony Welford becomes chief executive of a newly-created export division of Guthrie Industries (UK). Mr Tony Langan is to be chief executive of the plastics and textiles division.

Mr Brian Tritton will leave Samuel Montagu in February to join the boards of Grindlays Bank and Brandts.

Mr D. G. A. Owen has been made managing director of E. Gomme. Mr D. L. Gomme, previously managing director and chairman, continues as executive chairman. Mr L. G. Dandy becomes design director.

Mr D. Sarchett joins the board of Gartmore Investment.

Mr R. S. Martin becomes an overseas director of Wallace Brothers Bank.

Mr S. M. G. Anderson is to join the board of Wilmot Breeden.

Dr Kenneth Bergin will be the new chairman of the Air League.

Mr A. H. Teare has been appointed managing director of Turners Asbestos Cement (Northern Ireland). Mr J. K. Shepherd and Mr W. S. Goodwin have been made directors. From January 1, Mr J. P. Culliton will join the board in place of Mr O. A. Lund.

Mr W. F. Vincent has become a director of Supara Investments.

Commodities

By John Woodland

Soya bean meal futures market to open in mid-April

Can London sustain another commodity futures market? It takes a great deal of research and months of preparation to open a market but even when everything appears right it is by no means certain of success.

This has been witnessed a number of times with failures in cotton, fishmeal, coconut oil, sunflowerseed oil and soyabean oil.

Nevertheless, the Grain and Feed Trade Association (Gafta)—an energetic and go-ahead organization—is confident that the soya bean meal futures market will prove a worthwhile addition to London's commodity scene.

The opening is scheduled for mid-April and a new association comprising 26 floor members is being officially formed on January 10 to be known as "The Gafta Soya Bean Meal Futures Association". Dealings will be in the Corn Exchange Building in Mark Lane and ring facilities will be shared with the London Vegetable Oil Terminal Market Association.

A contract will be of 100 tonne and will be quoted in sterling a tonne. Tenderable origins will be Europe, United States, Canada, and Brazil and the trading positions will be February, April, June, August, October and December.

Tendering points will be Antwerp, Amsterdam, Hamburg, Rotterdam, and the United Kingdom. The International Commodities Clearing House will guarantee the contracts while the trading hours will by 1045 to 1200 hours and 1450 to 1710 hours. The last part of the day's trading will coincide with the opening of the Chicago market.

The minimum price movement will be 10p a tonne while there will be a limit of £5 a tonne. When the latter is reached the market will close for 30 minutes to give time for dealers to advise their clients and reassess the situation. After the 30 minute closure there will be no price limits.

ACLI International	L. M. Fischel
Bache & Co (London)	Frank Fehr & Co
BOCM Silock	Goldschmidt & Charteris
Coley and Harper	HOLCO Trading
Comfin (Commodity & Finance)	I. S. Joseph & Co UK
Commodity Analysis	Lewis & Peat (Produce)
Peter Cremer (UK)	MacLeod Frentzel
C. Czarnikow	Pacol
Dalgety International	Powell Union Produce
Drexel Burnham	Rayner Hatton Garden
European Grain & Shipping	A. Reinstein & Sons
Faure Fairclough	T. G. Roddick & Sons
	Thornby Grain
	Wills and Wilkin

Success or failure of the new market will depend almost solely on whether the trade uses it and is seen to be using it. And if sufficient statistical material is published, particularly the consumption and crushing figures, the speculator might be tempted to trade, thus broadening the market. Arbitrage business between London and Chicago could make up a significant part of the activity.

Meanwhile, Mr L. Pullen, the president of Gafta, reports that the grain futures market has made great progress with over 90,000 trades (representing 9 million tons) being made in the year ended September 30 compared with 61,000 trades in the previous year.

Mr Pullen expects this year's figures to be even greater. Four years ago trades were ranging between 20 and 30 a day with two or three individuals actually trading on the ring on the floor of the Baltic Exchange. Today every space around the ring is taken up and recently on one day 1,094 trades took place.

Cocoa surplus forecast

London cocoa futures have remained strong throughout 1974 in the face of a supply deficit situation. Now this position is slowly but surely changing with Gill & Duffus recently forecasting a surplus of 22,000 tons in 1974-75 compared with a deficit of 43,000 tons in 1973-74.

On Friday the second position closed at £708.50 a tonne compared with a peak of £1.050 paid in May and £523.25 a tonne a year ago. Many dealers feel that the boom in prices is over and they generally expect sharply lower values next year.

G. & D.'s first forecast for production in 1974-75 is 1,406,000 tons which is again disappointing (being 16,000 tons down on the previous year) but following the high prices which have prevailed for some 18 months consumption has been reduced considerably.

The surplus now forecast reflects a 5½ per cent reduction in seasonal grindings from 1,451,000 to 1,370,000 tons. Perhaps, G. & D. says, it might be thought that present prices would have produced a greater fall in consumption but 1974 prices when deflated are still considerably below the level of 1954.

A central issue to any forecasting of cocoa consumption in 1974-75 is the sugar situation. For the first time in their history, chocolate manufacturers are confronted with world market prices for sugar, rather than a controlled domestic price.

G. & D. has tried to avoid taking too pessimistic a view but, if chocolate manufacturers should be obliged to take a large part of their sugar supplies at world prices, cocoa bean grindings may be expected to fall even further. In that case, the surplus could be substantially greater than 22,000 tons.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Year ends on a 'hot issue' note

A dreadful year for the Eurobond market is ending with a hot issue, AP-Dow Jones writes.

The DM100m (nearly £18m) seven year offering of New Zealand Government bonds technically will be floated in January. However, the issue is already being sold on the basis of a 9.75 per cent coupon and perhaps a discount in the offering price.

The issue, managed by Commerzbank, has already attracted investment demand because New Zealand is considered a prime credit risk, which for some time has been the most important consideration among investors.

Euromarkets

However, the offering has been helped by this week's half-point reduction in the central bank's discount and Lombard rates and by expectations that short-term German interest rates will drop even further.

Assuming that no more Eurobond issues are scheduled this year, the amount announced or floated in 1974 comes to about $1,900m (about £830m) down from $3,600m last year.

Changes in exchange rates were one disturbing factor. At the end of last December the dollar was quoted at 3.2510 Swiss francs. Recently, the rate has been moving erratically around 2.60, representing a 20 per cent loss.

However, Eurodollar bond prices have declined as well. At the beginning of the year, the bondtrade index for long-term Eurodollar bonds was 91.89. The index now stands around 83.65—roughly a 9 per cent drop in prices.

Thus for the Swiss investor the average loss on the currency and price of Eurodollar bonds could well range near 29 per cent.

Eurobond prices (yields and premiums)

$ STRAIGHTS

	Price	Redm Yld
Africase 8¾ 1988	77	12.26
American Motors 9 1989	[illegible]	11.65
Anglo-American 7½ 1987	70	12.57
Ashland 8 1987	85½	10.05
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Lancashire 9½ 1981	[illegible]	11.21
Legal & Gen Ass 7¾ 1988	72	11.55
Manchester 8¾ 1981	[illegible]	11.40
Mexico 8¾ 1991	81	11.61
Michelin 7¾ 1983	80	10.55
Mitsubishi 9 1989	[illegible]	10.55
Motorola 8 1987	89	[illegible]
Nat & Grindlays 7¾ 1987	71	12.54
National Coal Board 8¼ 1988	81	11.40
Norges Komm 7½ 1990	81½	[illegible]
N. A. Rockwell 7¾ 1979	[illegible]	[illegible]
N. A. Rockwell 8½ 1987	84	10.60
Nottingham 8¾ 1979	90	11.55
Pacific Lighting 8 1988	81¼	10.19

	Price	Redm Yld
Pennwalt 8 1987	84½	10.21
Quebec Hydro 8½ 1989	94	9.26
Quebec (Province) 7½ 1988	85½	9.47
Queensland 8¼ 1987	81½	10.57
Ralston 7¾ 1987	87½	9.94
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

	Price	Conv Prem
Trans Euro Pipeline (DM) 8 1987	81¼	10.28
Voest-Alpine (DM) 8½ 1988	93	9.41
$ CONVERTIBLES		
AMF 5 1987	51	131.34
Alaska Int 6 1987	39	98.34
American Express 4¼ 1987	70	58.10
American Motors 6 1988	59	[illegible]
American Medical 5¼ 1992	[illegible]	406.15
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

DM=Deutschmark issue. FF=French Franc issue.

Source: Kidder, Peabody Securities, London.

Brokers' views

The approach of Christmas has done little to lighten the burden of woes upon the stock market investors, nor to lessen the weight of advice offered to him.

From Wood Mackenzie comes the Bank Annual, which includes earnings forecasts for all the major clearers. Midland Bank stands out well, with prospective earnings of 50p a share on Wood's calculations, compared with 46.5p from Barclays, 43.6p from Lloyds and 45.8p from National Westminster.

Wood concludes that there are no obvious switching opportunities among the London banks, but that the Scottish banks appear relatively expensive. It therefore recommends switching from Bank of Scotland into Barclays and from National and Commercial into National Westminster.

Buckmaster & Moore reviews prospects for the chemical industry which, it says, is now past the peak of its profits cycle, with very few major manufacturers expected to maintain profits growth over the next year or two.

Terry Byland

Keyser Ullmann interim today

Results this week are virtually confined to today—notably, the half-time figures of Keyser Ullmann merchant banking group. Details:

TODAY, Interims: Ailsa Investment, Associated British Engineering, Bensons Hosiery, Continuous Stationery, Keyser Ullmann, Metal Products, Park Yorkshire, Polly Peck, Radiant Metal Finishing and J. E. Sanger. Finals: Bertams.

TOMORROW, Interim: Gresham House Estates.

FRIDAY, Interim: Knott Mill Holdings.

Weekly list of fixed interest stocks

	Latest Price	Prev Week
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

*Ex dividend

Whessoe's first priority to generate cash

Lord Erroll, chairman of Whessoe, says in his report the group's first priority will be to generate as much cash as possible. Efforts during the current year will be directed towards a resumption of profitable growth (last time the pre-tax fell from £2.3m to £1.4m) with total contracts on hand at well over £100m.

The chairman would not hazard a forecast, but says the Government's decision to base the next stage of its nuclear power programme on the steam generating heavy water reactor is of "great significance" for the company. It gives a substantial chance to participate in this development. The company has received several design and research contracts that may lead to further work when the main orders are placed.

As with most companies in heavy engineering, Lord Erroll goes on, cash resources have been under heavy pressure.

Resign call to B'mouth BS directors

A suggestion that all eight directors of the Bournemouth & Christchurch Building Society resign has been made by Mr J. Rowland-Jones, who is opposing a proposed merger with the larger Portman Society.

Under the takeover plans the directors would each receive £3,000 compensation and Mr Rowland-Jones says they should also forgo what he calls the "generous" redundancy scheme. A meeting of B & C shareholders was held earlier this month but was adjourned until December 30 because it was overcrowded.

Mr Rowland-Jones's suggestion of resignation is included in a four-page circular he has sent to the 6,000, or so, shareholders.

F & C Group purchase

For an undisclosed amount of cash, the F. & C. Group of Investment Trusts has purchased a substantial minority stake in Exploration International, the holding company of exploration consultants.

The business of Exploration International will continue without change and Mr D. J. Fitzwilliams and Mr J. Davenport will be joining the board as additional directors.

Charter Tst repay all foreign loans

Reporting net earnings up from £534,000 to £607,000 for last term Charter Trust & Agency says all its foreign currency loans have now been paid.

The "net" is arrived at deducting management expens[es] of £79,000 (£78,000), debentu[re] and loan interest of a simil[ar] £176,000 and foreign curren[cy] loan interest of £115,0[00] (£284,000) plus tax from a to[tal] income of £1.38m (£1.4m).

A final payment of 1.4[p] makes a total up from 1.87p [to] 2.23p.

No Milbury payment

With the United Kingd[om] economic scene in general a[nd] the state of the housebuildi[ng] industry in particular remaini[ng] "very uncertain" Milbu[ry] property developers, consid[er] the payment of an interim di[vi]dend would not be in the b[est] interests of the company a[nd] shareholders. Last time t[he] amount was 0.87p.

In the six months to Septe[m]ber 30 turnover fell from £2.1[...] to £1.57m and profits fr[om] £347,000 to £123,000 pre-t[ax]. Interest on sites where devel[op]ment has not started and wh[ere] it has been suspended is to [be] written off.

Cheer from Wearwell

Revealing a rise in inter[im] pre-tax profits from £402,000 [to] £462,000, the board of the We[ar]well clothing house is hoping [to] continue at the same rate in t[he] second half, pointing to a n[ew] record profit of £924,000 agai[nst] last year's £823,000. Sales [in] the half expanded from £2.3[...] to £3.42m.

The dividend is rising fr[om] 1.6p to 1.68p out of earnings from 2.51p to 2.65p.

Poole & Gladstone

Adjourning its annual me[et]ing until accounts for t[he] period to December 31 are [to] hand, shareholders of Thom[as] Poole & Gladstone China we[re] told that all associated co[m]panies are making profits [in] excess of their 1973-74 level. [In] fact their contribution for t[he] past six months of the grou[p] financial period should [be] "significant".

All the indications are th[at] 1975 should also prove to be [a] period of improvement pr[o]vided confidence in industry [is] maintained. Meantime, t[he] board hopes to announ[ce] shortly that it has acquired [a] "substantial" engineering co[n]cern.

IMI PURCHASE

Subject contract, group h[as] agreed to buy industrial valve [re]pair activity of Serck Services [for] about £250,000.

BRITISH BANK OF MIDDLE EA[ST]

Authorized capital raised, [to] £15m by creation of 10m n[ew] shares, all allotted for cash [to] parent Hongkong & Shang[hai] Banking.

Freight report

Tanker owners confidently waiting for the oil majors to rush into the freight markets for tonnage to transport crude away from the producing areas before price increases on January 1, were just left waiting last week.

Early on, rates hardened slightly in expectation, but that was all. Owners' greatest desire—enough demand to absorb the 10 million tons of tankers scheduled to be in the Persian Gulf in the second half of the month—was not fulfilled.

A week previously, VLCCs booked from the Gulf to Europe were only managing Worldscale 32.5 ($3.37 a ton), and there were reports that even less was paid. By last Friday they achieved Worldscale 35 ($3.63).

Although still insufficient to pay the costs of a round trip, it was a step in the right direction. Now, however, there are fears that rates will gradually drift back down again and that moves into lay-up berths will accelerate.

Brokers, however, claim that it is still too early to suggest that some increased demand will not be felt, or that the oil companies are not playing on owners' nerves by holding out right up until the last minute.

More share prices

The following companies will be added to the London and Regional Share Price List tomorrow and will be published daily in Business News: Commercial and industrial Lyles S. Ltd.

The Times Share Indices

The Times Share Indices for 20.12.74 (base date June 2, 1964 original base date June 2, 1959):—

	Index No. Latest	Div. Yield %	Earnings Yield %	Change over week
The Times Industrial Share Index	63.66	12.34	26.73	+4.62
Largest Coys.	65.88	13.05	26.21	+4.73
Smaller Coys.	64.97	14.80	31.82	+4.11
Capital Goods	64.48	14.33	31.02	+4.35
Consumer Goods	79.91	13.54	25.90	+6.75
Store Shares	60.74	13.83	17.20	+4.92
Largest financial shares	84.79	10.70	—	+8.59
Largest financial and industrial shares	69.45	12.60	—	+5.81
Commodity shares	149.36	12.63	26.03	+6.14
Gold Mining shares	570.46	5.80	8.37	+39.98
Industrial debenture stocks	65.55	9.44*	—	+0.36
Industrial preference stocks	40.30	17.18*	—	−0.08
3½% War Loan	20⅝	17.24*	—	+½

A record of The Times Industrial Share Indices is given below:—

	High	Low
All-time	198.47 (15.08.72)	60.38 (12.12.74)
1974	128.18 (29.02.74)	60.18 (12.12.74)
1973	189.38 (12.01.73)	120.09 (14.12.73)
1972	198.47 (15.08.72)	174.48 (10.01.72)
1971	174.77 (31.12.71)	122.23 (02.03.71)
1970	145.78 (14.01.70)	110.75 (26.05.70)
1969	171.95 (31.01.69)	122.98 (23.07.69)

* Flat interest yield.

Bank Base Rates

Barclays Bank ..	12 %
FNFC	13 %
*Hill Samuel	●12½ %
C. Hoare & Co ..	*12 %
Lloyds Bank ..	12 %
Midland Bank ..	12 %
Nat Westminster	12 %
Shenley Trust ..	12½ %
20th Cent Bank	12 %
Williams & Glyn's	12 %

* Members of Accepting Houses Committee.

● Demands deposits, 11½%, £10,000 and over.

* 7-day deposits in excess of £10,000 up to £25,000 10½% over £25,000 10¾%.

Unit Trust Prices—change on the week

Prev W'end Offer	Ch'ge on Week	Trust	Bid	Current Offer	Yield
[illegible]	[illegible]	Authorised Unit Trusts	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Offshore and International Funds

[illegible]

Insurance Bonds and Funds

[illegible]

LEGAL NOTICES also on page 19

No. 003156 of 1974

In the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE Chancery Division Companies Court. In the Matter of T. & S. (ELECTRONIC DEVELOPMENT) Limited and in the Matter of the Companies Act 1948

Notice is hereby given that a PETITION for the WINDING UP of the above named Company by the [illegible]

LEGAL NOTICES

IN the MATTER of MIDLAND NORTHERN & SCOTTISH INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED (In liquidation) and in the Matter of the Companies Acts, 1948 to 1967

Notice is hereby given, in pursuance of section 299 of the Companies Act, 1948, that a GENERAL MEETING of MEMBERS of the above named Company will be held at the offices of Messrs. Deloitte [illegible]

[illegible]

…ents news …erks up …e market

…he announcement that the …ze on business rents is to … early next year will mean … merrier Christmas for the …erty world. Shares reacted …ply upwards and the news … generally welcomed in the …erty world, although a few …stions remain to be …vered.

…e market has been dis…ed for some time. The …cts of a sudden change are …cult to assess, particularly … the present economic …ate. Precisely what values … do is open to several …rpretations, but at least … announcement has cleared … picture and given the …ket a fillip.

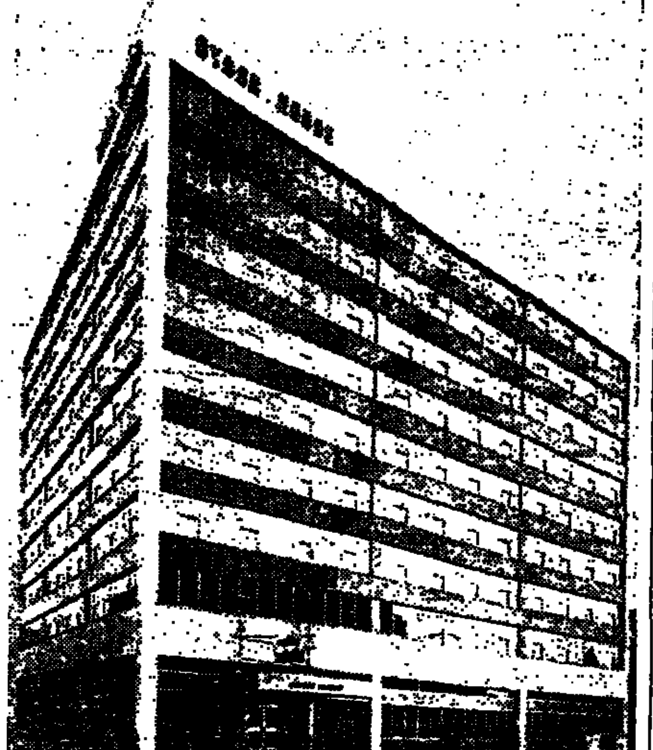
…part from this, the end of … year rundown has been …e marked than usual, with …h activity concentrated in … industrial field. A reason… optimistic note is struck …Weatherall Green and Smith, … chartered surveyors, in a …rt on national and inter…onal industrial develop…t. It shows that the firm …structed on projects which … 11,500,000 sq ft of indus… and warehouse space in …major schemes in the United …dom and Europe.

…e survey says that although … present lack of finance …able for industrial deve…ent makes it unlikely that …he proposed space will be … in the foreseeable future, … extremely encouraging to … that at least one third is …r up and let or under …truction. In addition, a fur… one million sq ft is to be … shortly.

… comments that although … will probably not be …gh to satisfy long-term …irements, it should meet …demands from industrialists … expansion programmes …ed in the immediate …e. Among 34 schemes the …st amount of space being … or planned is in London … the South-east, with four …on square feet, a figure …ly followed by 3.7 million … in France, and 2.12 mil… sq ft in the Midlands.

…other encouraging report …s from the new Brent Park …trial Estate, in Southall, …lesex. Since coming on the …et in the late summer, five …e nine factories have been … Tenants include Coventry …s Engines, Universal …ners and The Andrew … Group.

… least part of the success …n the fact that no indus… development certificates …equired. The four remain…ingle-storey factories have …been extensively rebuilt … new two-storey office …s and range from 7,000 to 55,000 sq ft. The largest …y has an office block of … sq ft. Rents for the …are between £1 and £1.50 … ft. Letting is through Leighton Goldhill and Partners.


Dyson House, Sheffield is to be used as a business study centre.

On the St Andrew's Way Industrial Estate at Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, all the existing space, amounting to about 150,000 sq ft on 7.3 acres, has been let or is subject to letting agreements. Tenants include Sperry Rand, Redifon, Rediffusion and the Oxford Regional Hospital Board. Rents have been about £1 a sq ft for the industrial space and £2.50 for the office space.

Work has begun on a further warehouse of 20,000 sq ft which will be available early in the spring. Letting is through Michael Laurie and Partners, who acted for the vendors when the estate was bought by the Standard Life Assurance Co in association with A. C. Frost and Co and Allsop and Co, who represented the developers at that time.

In a single large letting, Midland British Road Services (National Freight Corporation) have taken 23,589 sq ft of warehouse and office space on the Grimsbury North industrial estate at Banbury, Oxfordshire. The Graylaw Group, who developed the site, have let the property at £22,000 a year on a lease of 25 years with five-yearly reviews. Letting was through Chamberlain and Willows. Architects for the site were J. Robinson and Son (and Associates), of Bradford.

Town central area schemes are still coming up to completion. In Northampton last week the topping out took place of the Grosvenor Centre, a scheme which is being carried out by Grosvenor Estate Commercial Developments in association with the borough council and the Post Office pension fund. The centre is due to open next spring.

George Wimpey were awarded the construction contract in April, 1972. Designed by Stone Toms and Partners, the scheme is linked with the existing streets and comprises an enclosed and air-conditioned complex on two levels with large stores and more than 60 shops, mostly let. It includes also a multi-storey car park for 1,000 cars, to be operated by the council, and an air-conditioned office block of 90,000 sq ft, which will shortly be available for letting.

The scheme is the main part of an expensive development programme which follows the designation in 1968 of Northampton as a new town, in which the population will increase to 250,000 in the 1980s. Letting agents are Bernard Thorpe and Partners, Edward Erdman and Co and Wilson and Partners.

In Sheffield, Stonegate Securities have let Dyson House, their new development on the corner of Suffolk Road and Sheaf Street, near the Midland station, to Sheffield Polytechnic. It will be used as a business study centre. The building has a floor area of about 52,600 sq ft and is one of the few remaining completed office blocks in the city. The letting was through Henry Spencer and Sons, of Sheffield, and the polytechnic were represented in the negotiations by the estates surveyor of the Sheffield Metropolitan District Council.

In Coventry, G. W. Deeley Ltd, the contractors, have completed a new office building for the Liverpool Victoria Friendly Society. Costing £350,000, the new building has a gross area of 31,350 sq ft on basement and five floors, and has access both from Little Park Street and Salt Lane. Architects for the scheme were Redgrave and Clarke and the site is that of the old Masonic buildings in Little Park Street.

Gerald Ely

…roadcasting

…goose is getting fat. But you can expect the Christmas dinner to be in danger …n Dad's Army marching on its stomach (BBC1 8.0.). It is the end of term for …stermind as Magnus Magnusson's brainy class present themselves for the final …m (BBC1 8.30). Dieter Plage films the gorilla for a Survival programme in that …ressive creature's natural habitat. verb. sap. (ITV 8.0.). Christmas music from …mpton Court (BBC2 11.25) and an M. R. James ghost story (BBC1 11.35) make …ditional tv fare at this time. That charming, irreligious film The Graduate offers …ntrast (BBC1 9.20).—L.B.

…C 1

…am, Boss Cat. 10.20, The …ages of Animals: Royal …ution Christmas Lectures …oung People (1973), by … Attenborough, Beware! … 1. 10.50, Abracadabra, a …on film from Radio…ia. 11.00, Away in a Vil… 11.35, Star Trek. 12.20 …

BBC 2

11.0-11.25 am, Play School.
7.25 News.
7.30 Call My Bluff.
8.00 Wilderness, with Anthony Smith, Okefenokee Swamp.
8.30 The Last Turkey in the Shop Show, with Spike Milligan.
…

Thames

10.00 am, Out of Town. 10.25, Film: The Seven Faces of Dr Lao, with Tony Randall, Barbara Eden. 12.00, Pipkins. 12.15 pm, Issi Noho. 12.30, Mr and Mrs. 1.00, News. 1.25, Film: Hey There, It's Yogi Bear. 3.00, Jim's World. 3.30, Film: My Darling Daughter's Anniversary, with Robert Young …

ATV

9.50 am, … Woobinda … There's … 3.30 pm, … Joan Ev… ATV … 10.30-12… Holidays …

HTV

Southern

Yorkshire

Granada

Westward

Border

Grampian

Anglia

Radio

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TENDER No. 1/1975 (19 L. & U.) (Opening date, Wednesday, January 22nd, 1975.) For the supply of WIRE ROPES, 42300 Metres of different diameters weighing about 745 tons.

TENDER No. 2/1975 (20 L.) (Opening date, Wednesday, January 29th, 1975.) For the supply of RUBBER TYRES, about 3580 Tyres of different sizes for Vehicles, Tractors and Trailers.

TENDER No. 3/1975 (9 L. & U.) (Opening date, Wednesday, February 5th, 1975.) For the supply of GENERAL PURPOSE TRACTORS AND TRAILERS, namely 252 Tractors, 459 Trailers and 46 Bulldozers.

TENDER No. 4/1975 (18 L. & U.) (Opening date, Wednesday, February 12th, 1975.) For the supply of 804 MOTORCYCLES and 300 BICYCLES.

TENDER No. 5/1975 (1 L. & U.) (Opening date, Wednesday, February 19th, 1975.) For the supply of 35 TILE LAYING MACHINES.

TENDER No. 6/1975 (12 L. & U.) …

LEGAL NOTICES
also on page 18

No. 005101 of 1974
In the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE Chancery Division Companies Court. In the Matter of SKILLACRES (BUILDERS MERCHANTS) Limited and in the Matter of The Companies Act, 1948.

Notice is hereby given, that a PETITION for the WINDING UP of the above-named Company by the High Court of Justice was on the 13th day of December 1974, presented to the said Court by Lockhart Bennett Limited whose registered office is situate at Beale Street, Dunstable, Bedfordshire, Builders Merchants, and that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Court sitting at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London, WC2A 2LL on the 20th day of January 1975, and any creditor or contributory of the said Company desirous to support or oppose the making of an Order on the said Petition may appear at the time of hearing, in person or by his counsel, for that purpose; and a copy of the Petition will be furnished by the undersigned to any creditor or contributory of the said Company requiring such copy on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

BRABY & WALLER, 2/3 Hind Court, Fleet Street, London EC4A 3DS, Solicitor for the Petitioner.

Note.—Any person who intends to appear on the hearing of the said Petition must serve on, or send by post to, the above-named notice in writing of his intention so to do. …

PUBLIC NOTICES

DOMESTIC SITUATIONS

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WISH EVERYONE THE BEST FOR CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR

ADventure

Wishes all Times Secretarial column readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We'll be closed for Christmas week but we open again on December 30th. Have fun and come in for some black coffee after the Festivities.

All at ADventure
Charing Cross Rd. and South Moulton St.

JAYGAR CAREERS

Wish all their friends a very

HAPPY CHRISTMAS

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Responsible role for an efficient young Secretary in the production department of large food manufacturers' agricultural division. Must have ability to cope with all normal secretarial duties and show a flair for using own initiative. To £2,215 and subsidised lunch, etc. Miss Ashton, CHALLONERS, 5/7 Brompton Road, S.W.3. 581 2753.

JOAN FERNIE and all her staff would like to wish all clients and applicants the happiest of Christmases and a 1975 full of promise! We will be closed from 23rd-29th December (re-opening on 30th) for our reorganization and redecoration programme to be completed. Emergency number over Christmas, 01-455 2509.—Joan Fernie Personnel Ltd., 115, Park Street, W.1. …

WE'RE 21 TODAY!

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temporary or permanent wanted now to work all over London.
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needs the assistance of an attractive, versatile

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£2,250 P.A.

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GOODBYE, REGGIE

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Reggie, who's been with ACORN for some time, will be sorely missed. We wish her success for the future.

Best wishes from ACORN, Bond St.; ACORN, Maddox St.; and the Directors of the ACORN group of companies.

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PERSONAL COLUMNS

Classified Advertisement Department

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This office will be closed on 25th December

but open for telephoned announcements of Birth, Marriages and Deaths only on 26th December

9 am-noon on

01-837 3311

DEATHS

BIRTHS

MARRIAGES

IN MEMORIAM

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

THE HOUSE OF STEINER

WOULD LIKE TO WISH ALL THEIR FRIENDS AND CLIENTS A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

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FLY: IT COSTS LESS FOR MORE!

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SCHEDULED RELIABILITY

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APHRODITE'S DINE AND DANCE TILL 2 ... STAR CABARET NIGHTLY ... LOS FABULOSOS PARAGUAYOS

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HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

A WINTER YOU'LL ALWAYS REMEMBER WITH SOVEREIGN HOLIDAYS

WE'RE NO. 1 LOWEST RELIABLE DISCOUNT SCHEDULED AIRFARES

WORLD EXPEDITIONARY ASSOCIATION

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TRAVELAIR

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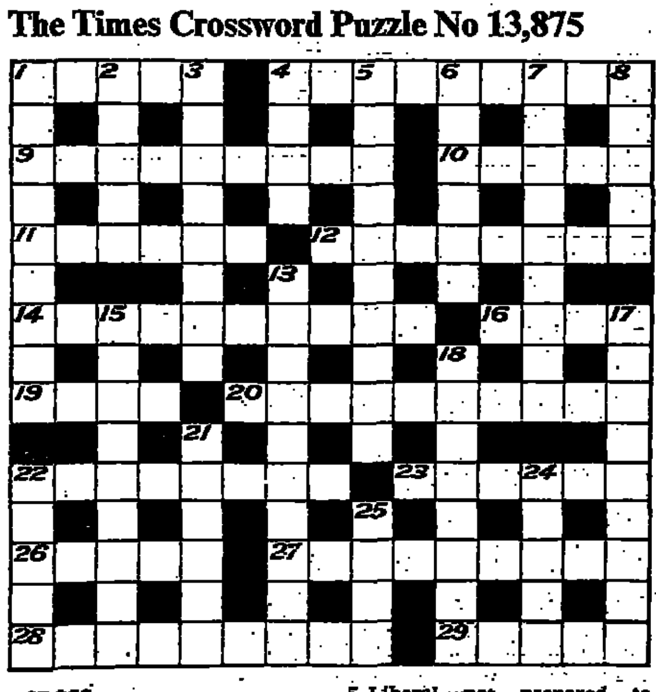
The Times Crossword Puzzle No 13,875



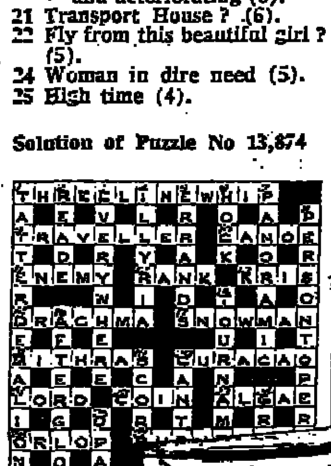
ACROSS

1 Some players' effrontery? (5).
4 Young Hodge turned up for work? (9).
9 Car supplied minus oil mixture and engine starter (9).
10 Spell of steering taken at bridge? (5).
11 Title supplied by composer, say (6).
12 Menace of rate change coming in then (8).
14 Calumnies replaced praises on direction (10).
16 Resembling a mere Cockney? (4).
19 Pack goes point-to-point (4).
20 It supplies a deficiency in power—about a week, roughly (10).
22 Inn has sauce badly made—what a pest! (8).
23 Script I'd like to return—shows perversion (6).
26 Doctor meets fresh-air girl (5).
27 Running away from work, in principle (9).
28 Ambassador failed as missionary? (9).
29 Rows of drawers? (5).

DOWN

1 Fish with horns? (9).
2 A little decoration on an Egyptian deity (5).
3 Room for fifty clues, roughly—short lines (8).
4 Distress of existing staff in France? (4).
5 Liberal not prepared to strike? (4-6).
6 Threaten to go out of key, say (6).
7 Looking angry having fish without tin-opener (9).
8 Canadian territory over there includes our kingdom (5).
13 In among dog connoisseurs perhaps—those with money (10).
15 In favour of seeing the stipulation (9).
17 Rough calculations one set out before officers (9).
18 Publicity appears indecent—and deteriorating (8).
21 Transport House? (6).
22 Fly from this beautiful girl? (5).
24 Woman in dire need (5).
25 High time (4).

Solution of Puzzle No 13,874



We like to keep you in the know.

هكذا من الأصل